



TOMORROW

Bloodstained roads
Diana Geddes joins the
French CRS police on
autodrome duty in
Spectrum
Fashion Rhodes
Suzy Menkes talks to
Zandra Rhodes in the
Fashion Page
Road to power
Bernard Levin looks at
Labour leadership
candidates -
specially Roy
Hattersley,
and explains how he
could
serve under just about
anybody

Iran threat to Gulf oil exports

Ali Akbar Velayati, Iran's
Foreign Minister, said that any
attempt to paralyse Iran's
oil exports would be answered
by Iran blocking oil exports
from the Gulf countries.
This is the first time Iran has
repeatedly stated its intention
to stop the oil exports from the
Gulf States.
Fighting Flares, page 6

Doubt over murder link

Police investigating the murder
of Caroline Hogg, aged 55, and
Susan Maxwell, aged 11, now
believe that there may be no
connection between the two
killings.
Page 3

Cliff deaths

Two Merseyside youths died
after jumping a wall and falling
from a 100ft cliff at Towan
reach in Newquay, Cornwall,
while fleeing from a gang of
Scotsmen.
Page 3

FINANCIAL TIMES

Mr William Keys, chairman of
the F.T.C.'s print committee,
said that even if the NGA was
presented over the Financial
Times dispute, it would not
help to break the strike.
Page 2

Plea to stay

Mr. John Sizer, a Turkish
citizen, who was arrested
after being charged with
murder, pleaded to stay
in Turkey, saying he was
innocent and wanted to
return to his family.
Page 2

Unlucky 13

France last night lost its
unbeaten record in the
European bridge championships
at Wiesbaden after Romania,
thirteenth round opponents,
successfully challenged an
examination of the French team's
siding to win 12-8.
Earlier results, page 8

Shipyard losses

Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman
of British Shipbuilders, which
is expected to announce £70m -
£100m losses for 1982-83, is
likely to suggest a survival
package costing £200m and
5,500 jobs.
Page 15

UK steel plea

Britain will today demand a
higher steel production quota
from the EEC, on the ground
that its steel industry has made
significant improvements in
competitiveness.
Page 15

Legal 'lottery'

Motorists take a cynical view
of the law, regarding them as a
punitive lottery, but generally
respect the attitudes of police
towards offenders on the road,
researchers have found.
Page 4

Overt out

Steve Overt's chances of being
selected for the two events at
the Athens world championships
receded when he was
spiked during an 800 metres
race at Crystal Palace and
forced to drop out with cramp.
Page 2

Leader page 13
Letters on Army discipline,
from Mr B. Vincent, re-
capping, from Mr R. H. B.
Neame, and others; prisoners'
rights, from Mr L. Blom-Cooper,
O.C.

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alliance: Sino-Soviet relations.
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South Africa: a spot of trouble
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Hattersley's views on where
Labour should be going; Ronald
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Dole benefits may be kept below cost of living

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Apprehension was growing
yesterday among middle-
ranking ministers and Con-
servative backbenchers, three
days after the Cabinet's first
consideration of the outlook for
public expenditure next year,
that the bargaining between
Treasury and spending mini-
sters, which is yet to begin, may
become awkward and angry by
the autumn.

In particular, fears that Mr
Norman Fowler, Secretary of
State for Social Services, will
come under pressure to keep
next year's increase in unem-
ployment benefit below the rise
in the cost of living have
prepared the Conservative
backbench social security lobby
for mobilization.

Specific reports that Mr
Fowler is contemplating resig-
nation if the pressure grows too
great were firmly denied yester-
day.

On the contrary, it was stated
that he means to fight
Mr Fowler is in the front line
for the single reason that he is
responsible for £51,000m of the
estimated £126,400m to which
the Cabinet agreed that expendi-
ture should be held next year.

Of this, by far the greatest
part, thanks to the high
continuing level of unemploy-
ment - £36,000m - goes to
social security and is money to
which its recipients will be
entitled unless the Cabinet
decides to squeeze them.

It now appears that Mr
Fowler invited his colleagues' support in Cabinet last week in

his aim of protecting the social
security budget, but did not
receive much practical
sympathy.

● The Treasury believes that
only about £2,000m of the
£5,000m of excess bids put in by
spending departments for next
year represents inescapable
commitments, to be accommo-
dated within the £3,000m
contingency reserve or offset by
cuts in spending elsewhere (Our
Economics Correspondent
writes).

The rest represents cash for
additional programmes or
padding of existing ones which
the Treasury hopes, perhaps
optimistically, can be elimi-
nated without great difficulty.

The Chancellor, strongly
backed by the Prime Minister,
would prefer to leave the
contingency reserve untouched
at this stage, providing some
leeway for possible tax cuts in
the next Budget or a cushion
against lower than expected
government revenues.

This would mean that the
whole of the irrevocable
£2,000m overrun in spending
would have to be offset by
painful cuts in other pro-
grammes.

But last Thursday's Cabinet
meeting made no decision on
the contingency reserve. Mr
Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to
the Treasury, who has the
gruelling task of bringing
spending departments into line
with the agreed overall total of
£126,400m, was simply told to
go away and do his best.

Council spending is well above target

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Figures to be presented to a
meeting today of councillors
and ministers will show that by
the end of the financial year
1984-85, council spending in
England could be £1.8bn in
excess of the government's
plans.

Council officials are saying
openly that the plan set out in
the last public expenditure
White Paper and reaffirmed by
the Cabinet on Thursday is
"wholly unsustainable". It would
mean, they say, as many
dismissals that the redundancy
payments would be unmanage-
able.

The Consultative Council on
Local Government Finance, which
brings together the
Secretaries of State for Environ-
ment and Education and leaders
of the local authority associa-
tions, will today receive
projections of council spending
into 1986.

These show a huge and
growing gap between council
outlays and what the govern-
ment has allowed, far more than
the "over-spend" in 1983-84 of
£744m. If present trends con-
tinue councils will be between 8
and 9 per cent in excess of the
government plans by 1985.

On local authority projec-
tions, the total spending of
English councils by March,
1985 could be more than £22bn,
compared with the £20.2bn
allowed in the published White
Paper.

Over the past few months
officials have made estimates of
the effects in 1984-85 of cutting
2 per cent and 5 per cent off
councils' present outlays after
making allowances for inflation.

A group working on educa-
tion, the largest element in the
total council budget has calcu-
lated that cutting 5 per cent
would mean dismissing 40,000
teachers by September, 1984 and
allowing a further 20,000 to
retire without being replaced.

Other sub-groups have, in
papers going to today's meeting,
concluded that a cut of 5 per
cent would have a serious effect
on social services and law and
order, as the number of police
officers was reduced.

Since councils are free to
raise their rates (until the
Government's new powers are
introduced) Mr Patrick Jenkin,
Secretary of State for the
Environment, is powerless to
control the total of spending in
1984-85.



King of the road: Laurent Fignon, French outsider, hoists the Tour de France trophy in Paris after successfully defending his lead to the finish. Report page 21

Lawson to reveal asset sales

By Frances Williams
Economics Correspondent

Details of the Government's
proposed £500m additional
asset sales announced earlier
this month are expected to be
revealed today when Mr Nigel
Lawson, the Chancellor, replies
to a question in Parliament.

Top candidates are parts of
the Government's existing
shareholdings in privatised
companies. BP, where the state
has a 39 per cent stake, British
(49 per cent) and Cable and
Wireless (45 per cent).

It would be difficult for the
Government to accelerate the
planned privatisation of such
leading enterprises as British
Telecom, British Airways and
the Royal Ordnance factories
which are scheduled for next
year. But it could decide to
bring forward sales of smaller
pieces of state industries and
publicly-owned companies.

The Transport Department
has already announced that it
expects British Rail's Sealink
subsidiary to be ready for
privatisation by the autumn.

Other possible subsidiaries
of B.L. such as Unipart, Jaguar
and Land Rover and profitable
parts of British Shipbuilders,
British Steel, the National Bus
Company and the British
Airports Authority.

The sale of British Gas oil
interests is already earmarked
for this year.

World alert over Armenian revenge

By Richard Evans

A worldwide security alert
has been ordered at all British
diplomatic missions after the
jailing of an Armenian for
firearms offences at the Central
Criminal Court on Saturday.

Every British embassy and
consulate is on its guard
against an unexpected attack by
fanatical Armenian extremists
in retaliation against the
eight-year prison sentence
passed on Zaven Bedros.
The SAS is on special standby.

Bedros, aged 32, is a self-
confessed member of the
Armenian Secret Army for the
liberation of Armenia, the
underground organization
which claimed responsibility
for the bomb attack on the
Turkish Airlines check-in at
Orly airport in Paris 10 days
ago, in which seven people
died.

He flew to London last
August and the prosecution
alleged during the trial that
his mission involved the
assassination of a senior
Turkish diplomat. Bedros told
the court he planned to take
hostages in a commando-style
siege of the Turkish Embassy
in order to demand the release
of Armenian prisoners in
Turkey.

The jury failed to agree a
verdict on the murder plot
charge but found Bedros guilty
of possessing a Soviet grenade,
pistol, and ammunition with
intent to endanger life. Grish
How Bedros was caught, page 3

Gemayel facing challenge from 'Salvation Front'

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

President Gemayel of Leba-
non will return to his country
from Washington in the next
two days to find that it has been
further torn apart, this time by
Syria's latest efforts to challenge
the legitimacy of his Govern-
ment.

The three leading Lebanese
politicians opposed to Mr
Gemayel have been encouraged
by Damascus to form a
"National Salvation Front"
which is clearly designed to
provide an alternative adminis-
tration in Lebanon if the
country is partitioned.

Meanwhile, ceasefires broke
down in the battles between
Druze and Christian Maronite
militiamen in the Israeli-occu-
pied Chouf mountains and
between rival Palestinian guer-
rilla groups in the Syrian-occu-
pied Bekaa valley.

Throughout Saturday night
the miniature civil war in the
hills above Beirut went on with
the Israelis making precious
little effort to stop it.

By last night at least two
Palestinian guerrillas loyal to
Mr Yasser Arafat's leadership,
together with a Lebanese
woman hit by stray gunfire, had
been killed by rebels who, with
Syrian encouragement, attacked
two pro-Arafat military bases
north of the town of Chitara.

The announcement of a
National Salvation Front was
made in the Syrian-held city of
Baalbek by Mr Walid Jumblatt,
the Druze leader, who at the
same time admitted that his
men had been responsible for
firing missiles at Beirut airport
last week.

While it is not yet claiming to
be a rival government, the new
alliance - which includes
former President Franjich and
Mr Rashid Karami who was
Prime Minister here during the
civil war - is none-the-less
meant to be a weapon of
coercion against President
Gemayel's authority.

Continued on back page, col 6

Floods close new Selby pit 'possibly for months'

Wistow Colliery, the show-
piece of British mining, which
opened only four weeks ago at
the Selby coalfield, North
Yorkshire, is to be out of action
for "weeks, and possibly
months" after weekend flood-
ing. As water continued to seep
into the pit, the National Coal
Board confirmed that coal
production would be halted, at
a cost of £600,000 a week.

A spokesman said that the
opening of the second set of 20
faces, scheduled for three to
four months time as part of the
total £1,000m project, could be
delayed. "There may have to be
some rethinking on this follow-
ing the flooding," he said.

As a major investigation got
under way and emergency
pumping continued, the NCB
were trying last night to work
out how the water got through
250 ft of rock and stone to the
coal face.

"This is what is puzzling us.
We never thought this was
possible and are sure it is a
unique problem. We have not
heard of it ever happening
before", the spokesman added.

Mining engineers have so far
been unable to see the full
extent of the damage in the pit,
which contains £3m worth of
equipment. But after moving in
extra pumping equipment last
night, they hope that by today
they will be able to examine the
mine.

Since opening four weeks
ago, Wistow, said by the NCB
to have been "setting the
standard for world mining", has
been producing 20,000 tons of
coal a week. "The loss of coal
production, which we put at
£600,000 a week, is bad enough
but what we are anxious to find
out is why this has happened",
the spokesman said.

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Shore criticizes failure to move with times

Labour must reach 'new society'

By Our Political Editor

An appeal to the Labour
Party to develop its policies to
increase its appeal to office as
well as factory workers - to
the "earning classes" which
Labour had helped to create -
was made last night by Mr Peter
Shore, the Shadow Chancellor,
one of four candidates for the
party leadership.

Speaking at Chesham,
Buckinghamshire, he criticized
Labour for its lack of response
to the great social and economic
changes since the 1950s, notably
the increase in owner-occupied
homes and in car ownership.

These were most marked in
the South of England, he said,
but the change was happening
more slowly elsewhere with the
decline in manufacturing em-
ployment and the expansion of
the service sector.

Mr Shore spoke of the
disastrous general election re-
sult, which left Labour with
only 29 of the 260 parliamen-
tary seats south of a line
between the Wash and the
Severn, against 103 held in
1966.

He said there was no earthly
reason why these social changes
should erode support for
Labour, which had always been
equally concerned about white-
collar and blue-collar workers -
workers "by hand and by
brain".

There was nothing inevitable
about them slipping away from
Labour. Indeed, it would be
"richly ironic" if that hap-

pened, as Labour was the chief
architect of the growth of public
services and of the expansion of
education, and the promoter of
owner-occupation and of the
expansion policies that had
raised living standards.

But Labour had failed to
"tune in" to the concerns felt by
the "new earning classes".

Labour policies already
geared to these electors include
the option mortgage scheme,
started by Labour, which gave
standard-rate tax relief to those
paying less than standard-rate
tax, Mr Shore said.

It was a Tory myth that
Labour was opposed to owner-
occupation.

Labour had first introduced

Continued on page 2, col 7

Heatwave in US kills 120

From Our Own Correspondent
New York

More than 120 people have
died in the heatwave affecting
many parts of the United States.
A state of emergency has been
declared in the city of St Louis,
Missouri, where people are
being urged to use 70 air-con-
ditioned "cooling off" centres.

The centres offer shelter from
the overpowering 100° heat
which has so far killed 38
people in the city.

An emergency has also been
declared in Louisville, Ken-
tucky, where hospitals are
crowded with heat victims.
Police report an unprec-
edented wave of thefts of air-
conditioners from private
homes and churches.

St Louis is badly affected
because it has many flat-topped
brick buildings which retain the
heat, and whose windows have
been nailed down to foil
burglars.

Many of the occupants of
these houses are elderly who do
not have, or cannot afford, air-
conditioning. They suffer heat
strokes.

The heat wave has killed
people in Missouri, Illinois,
Kentucky, Georgia and parts of
North Carolina, Indiana,
Arkansas and New York.

● In Britain, after a Sunday
when many places had a dry
day but some areas experienced
very heavy thunderstorms, the
mixed weather was expected to
continue for some time. Today
is likely to be showery with
sunny intervals.
Forecast details, back page

Soup kitchen queues lengthen in US

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

At a time when American
farmers are growing so much
food that the Government pays
them to let fields lie fallow, it is
reported that many Americans
are going hungry.

Warehouses, grain stores and
caves are filled with grain, milk,
butter and cheese, and more
than a third of all farmland has
been taken out of production in
an effort to reduce the world's
most abundant country.

Yet the US conference of
mayors talks of the "prevalent
and insidious problem of
hunger". In increasing numbers
the very poor are having to

queue at soup kitchens and
what are called hunger centres.

Mr Leon Panetta, chairman
of the House agriculture sub-
committee on nutrition, says
the use of soup kitchens has
increased dramatically in the
past two years, four and five-
fold in some areas.

The spectacle of hungry
Americans looking for food at
distribution centres recalls an
investigation by doctors in 1967
which revealed widespread
malnutrition in the United
States. The food stamps pro-
gramme which resulted from
that inquiry, effectively reduced
hunger but then the Reagan

Administration set out to tackle
what it saw as abuses of the
welfare programme.

Government spending on
food assistance was cut from
\$16b in 1981 to \$15.4b last year,
although it is expected to go up
next year.

The distribution of free
cheese has been curtailed by the
Government because it is felt
that hand-outs are hitting the
commercial market.

Until last March the state was
giving 26,000 tons of cheese a
month to the needy but that has
now been roughly halved. The

Government has 391,000 tons
of surplus butter in store and
21,000 tons of surplus beef.

Anti-poverty organizations
say that cuts in food stamps and
distribution are responsible for
the soup kitchen queues. Thirty
million of the population of
233 million are graded as below
the poverty line but the mayors
say soup kitchens are not
keeping pace with the hungry.

A Bill to increase the
distribution of surplus food has
been approved by the House of
Representatives in spite of
opposition by the Reagan
Administration.

TUC poised to agree on talks with Tebbit about political levy

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Despite strong left-wing opposition, leaders of the TUC are this week poised to accept an olive branch from Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, and start talks with the Government on union democracy.

The thaw in the relationship will be heralded today when the TUC's employment policy and organization committee looks likely to endorse a paper calling for talks on unions' political levy.

Leaders of the Labour movement will want to make sure, however, that the talks are strictly defined and do not again descend into the "dialogue of the deaf".

The employment committee's decision will be recommended to the general council on Wednesday, but the talks are unlikely to take place until after the TUC's congress in September, which will be asked to agree to the plan.

Mr Tebbit's feelings on the subject of the political levy have moderated recently. Initially the idea was that union members should actively "contract in" to

paying towards the Labour Party, rather than seek means - allegedly sometimes complicated - to "contract out".

In a recent White Paper, Mr Tebbit has hinted that he would be prepared to discuss the matter with union leaders, an invitation he subsequently repeated in public.

The "hawkish" Mr Tebbit has been in a dilemma on the issue. If the system was changed to "contracting-in" he would probably achieve the hardliners' ambition of severing the party's financial jugular vein.

But he has been advised that he could let in the potentially dangerous Alliance by default, start an outcry about the business sources of the Conservative Party's cash and cause a campaign for the state funding of political parties.

The crucial vote today for talks by the 22 members of the committee would follow a "deep freeze" in the relationship between Mr Tebbit and union leaders since January when the same group decided there was no point in talking to

Mr Tebbit about his Green Paper on labour relations.

But today's decision is likely to mean a partial thaw only. Mr Tebbit's proposals for a 1984 trades union Act would also mean regular ballots for electing all union executives and for deciding whether to maintain political funds. There would also be secret ballots before all official strikes.

These three points are considered by TUC officials to be non-negotiable, despite right wing pressure for a free and wide-ranging dialogue with Mr Tebbit.

Mr William Keys left-wing chairman of the committee, backs the idea of meeting Mr Tebbit as long as there is a limited agenda.

He said yesterday: "There is no basis in Mr Tebbit's latest proposals for seeing him on union elections and ballots. He in no way leaves the door open that could lead to meaningful discussions."

"But I see no harm in talking to him about political funds. Certainly he has left the door open there."



High flyer: Mr Ron Mitcham and his race-winning Topsy Nipper. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

'Flying overcoat' wins race

A tiny aircraft powered by an 1800cc Volkswagen car engine yesterday won the Heineken Round London Air Race.

Its pilot, Mr Ron Mitcham, aged 37, a builder of Thorpe Road, St Albans, completed the 126-mile course in 1hr 20mins to take the £1,000 first prize.

His home-built Topsy Nipper, described by race officials at Wycombe Air Park, Buckinghamshire, as more an overcoat than

an aeroplane, was the smallest entry at 14ft long, with a wingspan of 19ft.

Mr Mitcham said: "I almost pulled out at the last minute because of a heavy shower at the start".

A two-mile queue of traffic built up outside Greenham Common air base yesterday as thousands turned out for the last day of the air display there.

EEC decides cost of Britain's puddings

By Patricia Clough

An emergency meeting of bureaucrats from the 10 EEC countries in Brussels today will decide the cost of Christmas puddings in Britain next Christmas.

They are to debate what to do about a levy on non-EEC sultanas and raisins which could turn a 50p Christmas pudding into a 55p one, and put up the price of fruit cake, mince and some biscuits.

The temporary levy was imposed last October, too late to affect last year's Christmas dinner, to protect the sultana producers of Greece, who had just entered the Community. On the face of it, this would seem a problem since Greece's entry also promptly landed the Community with another mountain, a 60,000-ton sultana mountain.

Many were sultanas which would normally have been exported to the Soviet Union and other eastern European countries which, struggling with their own economic crisis, could not afford them. But the

farmers were also turning out more dried grapes to gain the notorious benefits of the EEC's agriculture supports.

But the British, who eat 115,000 tons of sultanas, raisins and currants a year - more than all the other 220 million Community inhabitants put together - turned up their noses at them.

Greek farmers, an expert in the trade explained, dry their grapes on their tiny plots in over-intensive proximity to goals and a other farm animals. Cleaning and inspection leave much to be desired, so importers have to treat them again in Britain. "No food manufacturer is going to gamble with health standards in these circumstances," Bob Widdowson, the organization's director says in *Housing Aid Facts and Figures*, published today.

Mr Widdowson adds that families are told they are not being given help because they are judged either not to be in priority need or to have made themselves intentionally homeless.

Councils 'not housing families'

Families are being broken up and children taken into care because local authorities are failing to do their legal duty and provide homes, according to the Shelter National Housing Aid Trust.

In 1981, 1,200 families asked for council accommodation because they were homeless; the trust says. But 52 per cent of them were refused help, Shelter claims, despite the Homeless Persons Act which, it says, put a duty on councils to help those with children. "Both the housing (Homeless Persons) Act of 1977 and the Children Act, 1980, contain provisions which are intended to prevent children being taken into care."

It is worrying that some local authorities are not using their powers under these acts to prevent the use of care in these circumstances," Bob Widdowson, the organization's director says in *Housing Aid Facts and Figures*, published today. Mr Widdowson adds that families are told they are not being given help because they are judged either not to be in priority need or to have made themselves intentionally homeless.

Keys lays down terms for help in bringing out FT

By Our Labour Reporter

Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC's joint committee, yesterday set out the conditions under which his union would "consider" helping to publish the strike-bound *Financial Times*.

If the National Graphical Association, which is simply suspended this week from the TUC, Mr Keys, general secretary of Sogat 82, would refuse to cooperate in any management plan to break the eight-week strike.

But, Mr Keys told *The Times* yesterday, he would be prepared to consider the scheme if the TUC accompanied its suspension of the NGA with advice that other unions should consider plans for republication because of the threat to employment.

He pointed out, however, that any such consideration would have to take into account the implied threat from many NGA activists that they would "close Fleet Street" if rival unions cooperated.

The "inner cabinet" of the TUC, the finance and general purposes committee, meets today to consider the NGA's defiance of the call for a return to work by Mr Les Murray, who underwrote mediation talks.

The committee has the power to recommend a course of action to the TUC General Council which meets on Wednesday.

Despite pressure from the company, which considers Mr Murray's reputation to be at stake, the committee will receive advice that a suspension may prove to be "hasty".

It is thought unlikely by some observers that the general council will outlaw the NGA, still less encourage other unions to break the strike.

A more likely course, it is felt, is that today's meeting will advise the initiation of new discussions.

The *Financial Times* has been planning to republish the 60,000 copies of the Frankfurter edition with the help of the National Union of Journalists.

The reaction of the chapel (union branch) will be tested after the present talks at the TUC. But national leaders said yesterday that they could not envisage any practical circumstances under which the edition would be republished.

The newspaper's management has been considering plans to produce a whole print run in Germany and fly it to Britain to be distributed by Sogat.

Shore calls for wider appeal

Continued from page 1

universal, income-related pensions, and it was an extraordinary omission from its policies that it had virtually nothing to say about the major grievances of those with occupational pensions which could not be transferred when jobs were changed or were not indexed.

"It is a fact that the nation was far less heavily taxed under the 1974-79 Labour Government than it has been since," Mr Shore added. "Yet here again the message has not got home."

The argument among the leadership contestants about widening the franchise to all party members, which led to angry words last week between Mr Michael Foot and Mr Roy Hattersley, continued yesterday on radio.

Mr Neil Kinnock said on the BBC's *World at One* that the impression had been given that, until the party had been purged, one vote - provided by a party member - was the only way in which the election of leader and deputy leader could not be considered democratic - which plainly was not the case.

He said that on this question he himself had "a rather longer record than most other people" as in December 1980 he moved in the National Executive Committee that Labour should require local party management committees to "lay down procedures to enable individual members to express their preferences".

Asked about the "dream ticket" under which he and Mr Hattersley would work together as leader and deputy, Mr Kinnock said the phrase was invented by journalists who were now destroying it.

There was never a dream ticket, but he repeated he could work with anyone who would give priority to securing a Labour victory.

IRA bombs 'wrong building'

From Richard Ford Belfast

Police in Northern Ireland denied yesterday that they had intended using an hotel bombed by the Provisional IRA as a temporary accommodation while a joint Army-police base is repaired.

Four bombs planted by masked men caused extensive damage to the Lake Glen Hotel in Belfast on Saturday night and afterwards an IRA statement said they bombed it because the hotel was to be used by the security forces. The hotel has been up for sale and is frequently used by Provisional Sinn Féin for press conferences.

In May a bomb exploded 500 yards away outside Andersonstown army-police base, but police said it was utter rubbish that they had planned to use the hotel.

The IRA has denied reports that 12 Belfast men have fled south for fear of being named by Mr David Mackle aged 44, the victim of a punishment shooting two years ago who is now understood to be in police protective custody.

Technicians to strike at ITV

More than 1,500 freelance ITV technicians have been instructed to strike from next weekend over pay and conditions. The stoppage, by members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) could eventually cause blank screens.

In an unrelated dispute yesterday, ITV's *Morning Watch* was not screened because of a salary dispute involving six ACTT engineers.

Poison alert

The police have warned sun-bathers on the Devon coast between Torbay and Lymington not to touch potentially lethal canisters of poisonous calcium phosphide which have been washed up on beaches.

Rock on rates

Rock music workshops are being held throughout South Yorkshire by the Labour-controlled county council to prevent boredom and frustration among the unemployed. The "rock-on-the-rates scheme" is part of a £100,000 project.

Irish visitor

Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, begins a three-day trip to Britain today. He will be visiting Liverpool, Birmingham and London, where he will meet Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr James Prior to discuss Anglo-Irish relations.

Right of access

People should have a legal right of access on foot to all open country and common land, the Ramblers' Association urges in a report, which says the natural beauty of uplands and open country is being eroded.

Diesel jobs cut

A further 190 workers have volunteered for redundancy at the Perkins diesel engine company at Peterborough, bringing the number of jobs lost in the past two years to 1,700.

Turkish mother who lied hopes to stay

By Alan Hamilton

A Turkish mother of four children who entered Britain illegally eight years ago said yesterday that she hoped to be allowed to stay, in spite of her admission that she lied to Home Office immigration officials about the whereabouts of her husband.

Mrs Gulistan Sezer, who lives with her children, aged between six and 15, in Camden, north London, told *The Times* yesterday that she knew all along that her husband had returned to Britain after being deported as an illegal immigrant in 1981, although she denied that he had lived with her since his return.

When threatened with deportation herself earlier this month, she insisted to the immigration authorities that she had not seen her husband since his deportation.

Mr Selcuk Sezer, who was found by police after an anonymous tip-off working in a north London restaurant, was sent home to Turkey on Saturday.

"How could I tell the truth? My husband was here illegally, either I had to shop him or keep quiet," Mrs Sezer said. "I want to remain in this country, and educate my children here."

Mrs Sezer recently contested a Home Office deportation order on the ground of compassion for her children, she claimed that her husband was a violent man, that they had not lived together since his illegal return, and that she had started



Mrs Sezer: Denied having seen her husband.

divorce proceedings against him.

She last saw Mr Sezer last week, when immigration officials brought him to her house so that he could be positively identified.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is now reconsidering his decision to let Mrs Sezer stay in Britain, in view of her recent conduct.

Europeans reject UK TV system

By Clive Cookson Technology Correspondent

The British campaign to have its method of broadcasting television by satellite adopted as a European standard has failed. France and West Germany have rejected the C-MAC system developed by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which the BBC plans to use for direct broadcasting from the E30m Unisat satellite, (due for launch in 1986).

Mr Christian Schwartz-Schilling, the German Minister for Posts and telecommunications, came out against C-MAC at a recent meeting in Bonn with Mr Louis Mexandeau, his French opposite number. France's opposition was well known, but British government and industry representatives had hoped to win over Germany.

The technical committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) recommended a standard based on C-MAC but France blocked its adoption by the full EBU. Almost everyone agrees that the IRA system would give excellent sound and picture quality - better than the PAL and SECAM systems now used for terrestrial TV broadcasts in Europe.

All existing television sets would have to be adapted for C-MAC. The French are prepared to sacrifice technical quality for a cheaper satellite standard based on PAL and SECAM, which are products of 1960s technology.

Although EBU technical staff will continue searching for a common European standard, the prospects of agreeing on an acceptable compromise are small. If there is no agreement, the present problem of viewing across frontiers with different colour systems will be repeated when direct satellite broadcasting becomes widespread.

The failure to agree on C-MAC as a European standard is also bad news for British manufacturers of broadcasting equipment.

Checks on electricity costs urged

By Jonathan Davis

Some electricity boards appear markedly more successful than others in cutting costs and improving efficiency, a report out today from the Electricity Consumers' Council says.

The administrative cost of supplying a unit of electricity in the Midlands Electricity Board area rose by 28.9 per cent in real terms in the seven years to April 1982. Yet during the same period the Eastern Electricity Board cut its administrative costs by 37.7 per cent in real terms.

The number of employees per 1000 consumers fell by 28.6 per cent in the South-Western area, while the cut in London and the North-West was only between 12 and 13 per cent. The council avoids saying the variations necessarily reflect degrees of efficiency.

Low paid 'need bill of rights'

By Our Labour Reporter

A new "bill of rights" is needed to protect the weakest workers, the Low Pay Unit says in a report published today. The Conservative Government has stopped long-standing legal procedures which guard the lowest paid against unscrupulous employers, the unit says.

Many workers in small firms have to wait two years before they can gain any protection against unfair dismissal. The report declares that a bill of rights for the low paid should include an automatic entitlement to protection from unfair dismissal without the need for a minimum length of service; a right for workers to get their jobs back when a tribunal finds they have been unfairly dismissed; a new legal procedure for union recognition; better minimum standards for redundancy and a minimum wage.

Ambitious dogsbodies who could reach the Cabinet

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Parliament is a month old and already a carefully chosen group of Conservative MPs have stepped on the first rung of a ladder of opportunity which could one day take them right up to the Cabinet.

These are the parliamentary private secretaries, the men and women ministers appoint to assist them in their duties in the Commons, keep them informed of opinions on the backbenches, humour them, run errands, serve drinks.

The PPS, according to one MP who has just relinquished the post, is at best an aide-de-camp and at worst a dogsbody. He caters to his master's needs as a parliamentarian and party politician in the way that private secretaries look after him in his ministerial capacity.

But whatever their misgivings, when the offer comes no MP who wants to get on can afford to refuse it. It can be a passport to nowhere and the sacrifice of independence can be great, but a failure to take the post would signify to the people who matter a lack of ambition, the MP concerned would normally not get a second chance.

The people who matter are the whips and the Prime Minister, who can exercise a veto on the appointments. The whips are the talent scouts and are credited with enormous powers of patronage by the MPs.

The Conservative whips keep a list of the MPs who have impressed with their performance in the Commons chamber, or in committee, with their diligence, their attendance and voting record. This names are at the disposal of ministers, who usually express personal preferences.



Rising stars: Stephen Dorrell, Richard Needham, Angela Rumbold, John Lee...

...Mark Lennox-Boyd, Peter Lloyd, Peter Bottomley, Keith Hampson.

There is also, Conservative MPs suspect, a list of MPs who, whatever their abilities, may have given offence, by speaking out of turn, straying from the party line or, most heinous of all, rebelling against the Government. Requests by ministers for their services are not readily met. There are murmurings of "blackballing".

PPSs are expected to keep silent on their minister's area of responsibility, avoid most committee and support the Government when they speak on other issues; "constructive" criticism is just about permissible.

They are not paid a penny extra for their work but still form part of the so called "payroll vote" which is often

mobilized, even on a free vote on issues like MPs' pay, when the Government wishes to hold firmly to a chosen line.

On such occasions a note goes out to ministers from the chief whip telling them to be present to vote and to make sure their aides are there as well. If the PPS rebels he has to go.

In return for what can be three or four confining and unrewarding years, particularly if the minister being served is below Cabinet rank, the PPS hopes to get the "call" to government. Many are disappointed, but at least the MPs know that most of the members of the present Cabinet who entered Parliament when the

had their first experience of government as a PPS.

Mr James Prior (PPS to Mr Edward Heath), Mr Norman Tebbit, Lord Whitelaw, Sir Keith Joseph, Mr Tom King, all did their time. Ten years ago Mr Cecil Parkinson was PPS to Mr Michael Heseltine, then Minister for Aerospace. Today he sits with him in the Cabinet as Secretary for Trade and Industry and a vicar.

Who will be the names to follow in the next 10 years? Perhaps those PPSs attached to ministers whose stars are high or still rising stand the most promising chances.

Mr John Lee, aged 41, MP for Pendle, is Mr Parkinson's new PPS and will be hoping to

follow the success of his predecessor in the post, Mr Robert Dunn, who was promoted to junior education minister at the start of this Parliament.

Mr Tim Renton, MP for Mid Sussex, serves Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, whose former aide, Mr Ian Stewart, is now a junior defence minister.

Highly personal appointments were made by the Cabinet's two leading wits, Mr Prior and Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy. They chose, respectively, Mr Richard Needham, aged 40, and Mr Stephen Dorrell, aged 31, who both displayed rebellious tendencies on the backbenches during the last Parliament but for whom, nevertheless, a bright future is predicted.

There have been swift rises for Mr Tim Smith, aged 35, elected only last year as MP for Beaconsfield in a by-election, after a brief spell as an MP during the previous Parliament, who has been appointed PPS to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, and Mr Angela Rumbold, elected only last year as MP for Mitcham and Morden, appointed as aide to Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury. Iain Mills, aged 43, MP for Meriden, stays with Mr Tebbit at the Employment Department and Mr Mark Lennox-Boyd, aged 40, is retained by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sir Keith, Secretary of State for Education, will be served by Mr Peter Lloyd, MP for Fareham.

Mr Keith Hampson, aged 39, MP for Leeds North-West, has joined Mr Heseltine at Defence. Mr Richard Page (South-West Herts) stays with Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons.

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سكنا من الامم

Youths killed in cliff plunge while fleeing disco gang

From Our Correspondent, Bodmin

Teenagers died when they fell from a cliff top on to a beach early yesterday morning after fleeing from a gang of youths. Another youth had been broken by a tree and was to safety. Three had vaulted a 4ft-one wall expecting that it led them to a path of safety. But the wall was only a barrier from the edge of the cliff over-looking the beach in Newquay.



Michael, 18, who was one of the youths killed in the cliff plunge.

After that, the Scots, believed to be on holiday from the Glasgow area, all vanished, and last night Det Chief Supt John Bisset, head of Devon and Cornwall CID, said: "We are most anxious to trace them. We know there was no physical violence involved at any stage, so we are appealing to the Scots to come forward."

The chase started soon after the late night discotheques in Newquay had shut. Mr Herald said: "We were just walking and not expecting any trouble. The Scots started shouting, and running towards us, and we started to run as well. I was terrified."

The four youths ran past a bowling green and along a path near the cliff top until it turned a right angle. It was there that they decided to vault the wall, believing that they would land in the grounds of a hotel.

Mr Herald said: "The Scots had almost caught up with us, and we thought that over the wall was our best chance of getting away from them. I went over first, and I knew immediately there was nothing there except the bush. I grabbed a branch with both hands, and then I saw Miles come over."

"I saw his white shirt and tried to hold on to it. It tore, and he went. David came over almost on top of him. Both of them had jumped too far out to have any chance of grabbing on to the bush."

A passing motorist, alarmed by the shouts, called the police. The only clues to the Scots were their footprints on the beach. Less than 24 hours after three children were left orphans when their parents were killed in a crash with a lorry on the A420 in Oxfordshire, two members of another family died in an accident 20 miles away on the same road.

Mr Malcolm Dickinson, aged 49, and his daughter Karen, aged 18, died when their car apparently hit a kerb and rolled over several times at Cumnor, near Oxford, early yesterday.

Armenian arms case

How secret services trapped a terrorist

By Richard Evans

July a brilliant undercover operation started by MI5, continued by the Special Branch, and completed by third Yard's anti-terrorist squad, prevented Zaven Bedros from a terrorist attack in London.

He recently recruited but a member of the Secret Service for the Liberation of Armenia, flew into Heathrow from Damascus on June 31, last year.

It was his first mission for the terrorist underground organisation which has killed 51 people, mostly senior Turkish diplomats, in an eight-year campaign to avenge the massacre of 1,500,000 Armenians by Ottoman Turks in 1915.

Bedros, aged 32, slipped through the airport's Terminal 1 immigration officials when he was a commercial salesman, in England to buy parts for Land-Rovers. A few hours after his arrival he was being watched.

The secret service network, often criticised, had already penetrated the Armenian network.

"It was a brilliant piece of work," one senior police officer said. "It is often said that a lot of duflers the security vice people are," he added. "It is a classic case of how active they have been."

Bedros, a Syrian-born ironmonger, was planning, so he said at his trial, a commando-style occupation of the Turkish Embassy. Four Secret Army lieutenants, he claimed, were ready in Britain, and he was to lead the assault on the Belgrave Square target. If necessary, he was prepared to kill or die.

am a suicide man", he told police.

An armed team of 20 officers from the Special Branch and the anti-terrorist squad, moved in to track his movements.

While the Special Branch officers were involved with surveillance, the anti-terrorist squad was ready to arrest Bedros.

Its officers did not have to wait long. During the early evening of September 9 Bedros was sitting idly on a car bonnet outside his hotel in Bayswater when he was summoned by a member of the hotel staff to take a telephone call. It was the message he had been waiting for.

Two hours later Bedros was seen walking back to his hotel, carrying an innocent-looking plastic shopping bag. But inside were the weapons he had been waiting for.

Bedros quickly took his armoury to his hotel room and then emerged on the street. Armed police officers moved in. Bedros ran but was quickly captured with a flying tackle by Det Chief Insp Hilton Cole.

In his hotel room the police found Soviet Fl anti-personnel fragmentation grenade and ignition set, a 7.62mm self-loading pistol, and 16 rounds of ammunition.

A disappointed Bedros later told detectives his arrest came four days before the embassy siege was due to take place.

An Armenian national council, to speak for the three million Armenians scattered across five continents was established yesterday by the second Armenian World Congress in Lausanne. Alan McGregor writes.

BBC contest criticized

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Teachers at some of Britain's leading music colleges have criticised the BBC of being "highly irresponsible" in staging The Cardiff Singer of the World competition, the final of which was televised last night.

In a letter to BBC Wales from Professor Lyndon van der Pamp, of the Royal College of Music on behalf of the head of singing at the Royal Academy, he expressed "profound disquiet" at the nature, which the BBC described as being open to singers of a minimum age of 18 "on the threshold of their professional careers".

The letter, also signed by six other eminent musicians, claimed that singers aged 18 were not on the threshold of their careers and should not be exposed to the stresses and publicity that such a competition demanded.

But Mr Geraint Stanley Jones, controller of BBC Wales, said: "I believe they misunderstood the purpose of the competition which was to give an opportunity to singers who felt they needed it to compete at a high level."

The final of the competition, held at St David's Hall, was won by Karita Mattila, aged 23, of Finland.

One of the judges, Sir Geraint Evans, was adamant that the competition was a success.

He said: "There is nothing wrong in the exploitation that can follow."

A body of influential musicians is now formulating strong protests about the increasing number of music competitions.

Irish drinkers swallow massive price rise

If drinkers in the Irish Republic are seen to stagger today, the likeliest explanation is not the alcohol but the stiffest ever tax on drink that comes into effect today.

An extra two pence tax on a pint of Guinness is the seventh price increase in seven months and beer prices - up by 30 per cent in the period - are now among the highest in Europe.

The humble pint will now cost IR£1.09 in the cheapest of city bars, IR£1.20 (96p sterling) in the more plush lounges and as much as IR£1.55 (£1.27 sterling) in top grade hotels.

The increase, imposed in last week's Budget, means that tax now takes 58 per cent of the cost of a pint of Guinness, the highest tax level in the European Community.

Dubliners, as ever, are stoical about the imposition and have now come to look on rises as something inevitable and pre-ordained. This week-end they packed the city's bars, enjoying their final "pint of plain", as Guinness is known, at the old prices.

Brewers and distillers expect the increase to depress sales; spirits sales have taken a knock already from earlier rises and are showing a 20 per cent fall.

One Dublin barman, though, is welcoming the rise. Mr

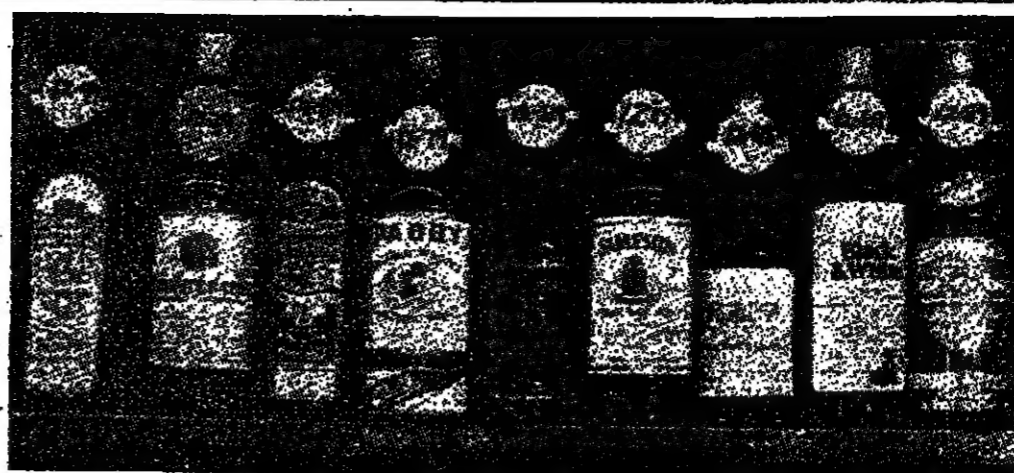
Tommy Cusack, owner of one of Dublin's most popular city centre public houses, Mulligans in Poolbeg Street, reckons it will make his work easier.

"It will stop the extra pennies lying around on my counter", he said. "You see, a pint of Guinness cost one pound and nine pence, and customers just didn't bother to pick up the extra penny in their change."

The locals are taking the rise philosophically, tourists are not. One British visitor, Mr Kevin Lyons from Blandford in Dorset, said: "I think these prices are outrageous. In my home town I can get a good pint of bitter for sixty five pence."

Indeed, Ireland's cost of living in general has left tourists in chaos. The Republic's exchequer is losing an estimated £200m annually as Southerners travel to Northern Ireland to shop there.

The main reason for the Republic's high taxes is a massive foreign borrowing debt. With the Finance Minister, Mr Alan Dukes, pursuing a strict policy to check Government spending and borrowing, little relief appears in sight for the hard-pressed drinker.



Prices up but beer still goes down. Building workers (top) drinking at a Dublin public house. But Irish whiskey on an off-licence shelf is dearer than Scotch.

Gypsy site 'test case' opens today

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Department of the Environment is being taken to court today in an attempt to force it to act to ease the plight of 200 gypsies living on a site near central London, generally agreed to be unfit for habitation.

The High Court action, being taken by Mr Martin Ward, a resident on the Westway site in north Kensington, is being seen as a test case for the interpretation of the Caravan Sites Act of 1968, in particular the issue of whether ministers can be forced by court order to compel

local authorities to provide gypsy sites if they have not been exempted.

The gypsies at Westway, which has been at the centre of a complicated legal battle for several years, face the prospect of eviction from the site or of having all mains services cut off, forcing them to leave. Their lawyers believe that the environment department is now considering seeking legal immunity from further public health prosecutions until lead pollution has been cleared up.

The two London boroughs responsible, Hammersmith and Kensington, both Conservative-controlled, were only prevented by an injunction last month from handing the site back to the Labour-controlled Greater London Council when the lease expired. Although it owns the land, the GLC says it is prevented by law from running sites for gypsies.

Hammersmith and Kensington dispute that, say the utilities would not cut off services if they abandoned the site and claim they can find nowhere else for the gypsies to live.

Gays told of festival Aids risk

From Our Correspondent, Dunderfline

Scottish health experts are worried that the Edinburgh International Festival next month may become a breeding ground for the spread of the mysterious disease acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (Aids). Aids has already reached epidemic proportions among the male homosexual population in the US with 1,500 reported cases and many deaths. A large number of American homosexuals are expected to visit the festival.

The estimated 40,000 homosexuals in the Edinburgh area are being cautioned by the Scottish Homosexual Rights Group to be very careful about having sexual contact with the American visitors.

Doctors face VAT charges

Doctors travelling overseas to brief themselves on the latest medical techniques are facing an immediate 15 per cent increase in their conference fees because of a Customs and Excise decision to charge value added tax on large firms exhibiting their products in export markets.

"Symposia are very keenly priced, because it is recognized that many doctors, surgeons and so on have to take part if they are to keep abreast of the latest developments."

"We are charging only about £150 for those taking part in the International Hospital Federation conference next year in Nairobi, and £130 as a registration fee for members of the International Federation of Clinical Chemists in Cairo this year."

"On top of that, of course, they have to pay all their air fares and hotel costs - but they are not VAT rated."

"Between 400 and 500 people will be in Cairo, with about 60 from the UK. The British are the only ones having to pay VAT, because the Customs and Excise decision relates only to British-based foreign conference organizers."

Conference plea

Gay hostellers at Scarborough, North Yorkshire, are to press the town council to allow the Campaign for Homosexual Equality to hold a conference at the resort, after three rejections in recent years.

Bargain houses

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council is to offer 60 per cent discounts to some tenants when they buy their homes. A house valued at £15,000 can be bought for £6,000.

Litter drive

Only about 100 volunteers braved Saturday's bad weather to help clean up Holyrood Park, Edinburgh. About 2,000 had been expected after the Queen's recent comments on litter in the park.

Doubts on link in killing of girls

Police are now less certain that there is a link between the murders of Caroline Hogg, aged five, and Susan Maxwell, aged 11.

Mr Hector Clark, assistant chief constable of Northumbria, who is leading the inquiry into both deaths, said: "There are similarities but there are significant differences between the two cases."

Meanwhile, Interpol has traced Herr Fritz Witte, a West German tourist who stayed in a Portobello boarding house on the night Caroline Hogg, from Edinburgh, disappeared.

Detectives will fly out within the next few days to interview Herr Witte, who was found at his home in Witten, near Dortmund, only hours after his disappearance was issued by the police.

Det Chief Supt Brian Cunningham said: "It is known that he spent three nights, including July 8 at the boarding house. He is one of the few people we have so far failed to interview."

He emphasized that at this stage the police simply wanted to eliminate Herr Witte from their inquiries.

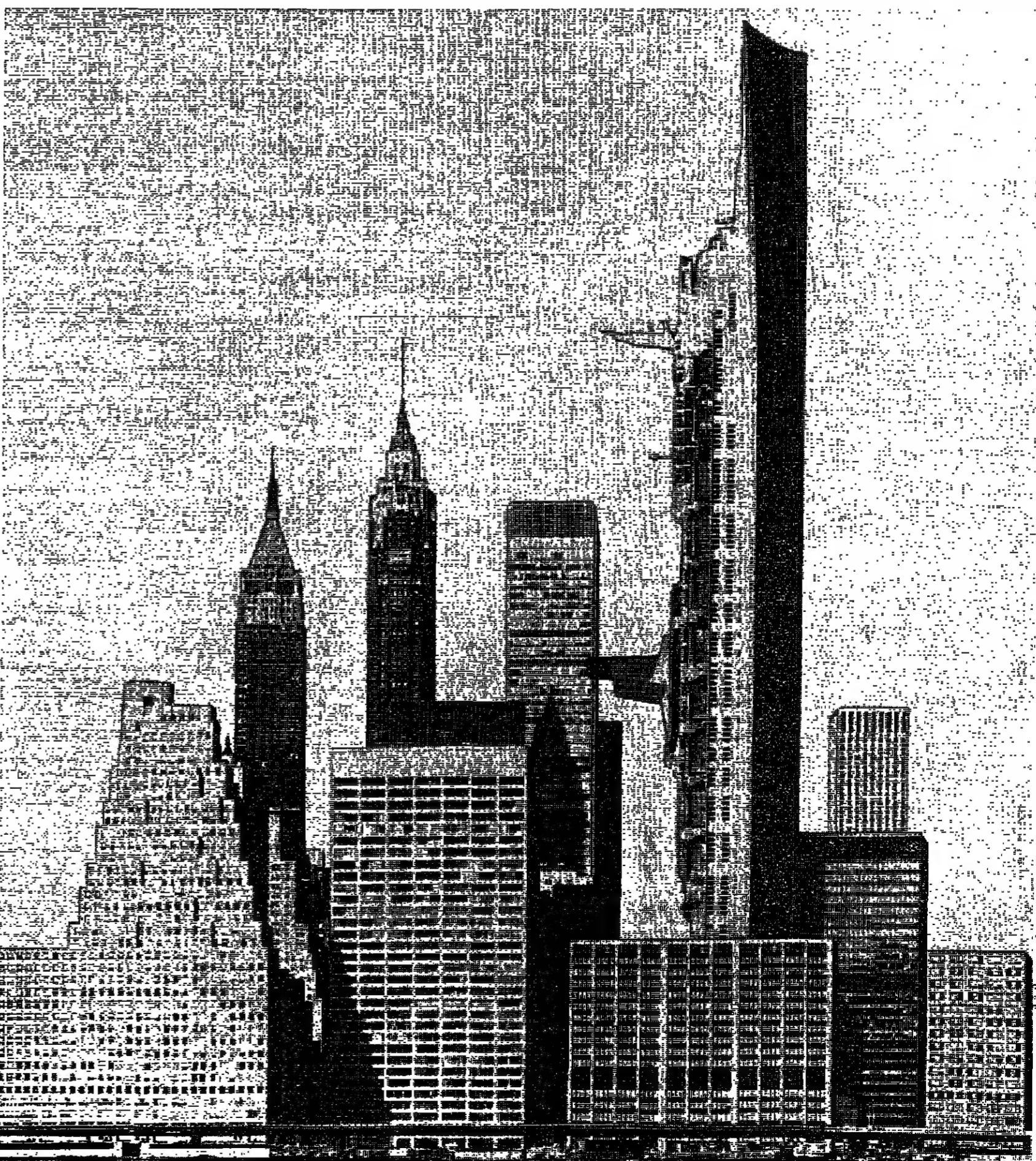
On Saturday police had appealed for a man who was seen in Portobello on the evening of July 8.

Asked about the similarities between Herr Witte's description and the man seen in Portobello, Mr Cunningham said: "We are not saying this in the man who was seen."

Of the deaths of the two schoolgirls, Mr Clark said: "It may well be we are looking for two different people."

Boy has typhoid

A schoolboy suffering from typhoid was making satisfactory progress yesterday in a Northampton hospital. Doctors believe his case is an isolated one, and are screening his family and friends.



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QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

Motorists respect police but despise traffic law 'lottery', report says

By Alan Hamilton

Many of Britain's 15 million motorists take a cynical view of the enforcement of traffic laws, regarding them as a punitive lottery concerned more with imposing penalties than improving road sense, according to a study conducted by the Police Foundation by Oxford University.

A friendly warning from a policeman is often more effective than court proceedings, the report concludes. Motorists see the penalties imposed by magistrates' courts as arbitrary and inconsistent, whereas police officers are generally well regarded, provided they strike the right attitude when approaching a motorist.

The report, based on interviews with motorists and with officers of the Thames Valley Police, recommends that motorists be educated rather than prosecuted. Suggestions include rewriting the Highway Code to include more practical guidelines to road sense.

More than five million traffic offences are committed each year. The system has bred what the report calls the "respectable motoring outlaw", who would not dream of breaking the law in any other area, but who in his car is prepared to risk offending for the sake of convenience.

Motorists grossly overesti-

mate the risk of being caught; the chance of being detected for committing a motoring offence is put at only one in 7,600.

The police and the public encounter each other on the road more than in any other area; the report estimates that well over one-third of all drivers have had an encounter with the police at some time. Many police chiefs regard traffic as a vital area of public relations and will, for example, refuse to sanction the full complement of traffic wardens in their areas for fear of worsening relations with the public.

Other areas where police and public conspire in speed limits; in some areas, particu-

SANCTIONS ADOPED BY POLICE

	Men	Women	All drivers
Given verbal warning	42	53	44
Not warned	4	2	4
Taken to court	41	23	38
Other action	4	5	4
No further action			
Not known/still waiting/ refused	8	16	10

Source: R. Griffiths et al., *Incidence and Effects of Police Action on Motoring Offences as Described by Drivers*, Transport & Road Research Laboratory, 1980.

larly in London, the police impose their own unwritten speed limits to keep the traffic moving, and drivers may have considerable leeway beyond the roadside speed signs.

At the same, traffic police may be over-zealous. The report suggests that probationary officers are encouraged to pursue borderline cases because they are good training and a high rate of prosecutions is likely to further their careers.

Motorists interviewed for the report often spoke highly of police officers who had stopped them, remarking on their courtesy, professionalism, and discretion in knowing where a well-judged warning would be more effective than a report.

But the survey also notes that officers can also be unnecessarily offensive in their opening remarks when approaching an erring driver.

The issue of warnings to drivers varied widely between different police forces, from 3 per cent of stopped drivers in Norfolk to 24 per cent in Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and West Yorkshire.

Road Users and the Police (M. C. Dix and A. D. Layzell, Transport Studies Unit, University of Oxford. To be published by Croom Helm, £13.95 hardback and £6.95 paperback).

Naturalists fear for future of bird refuge

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Mudflats on the Tees estuary in Cleveland are at the centre of a conservation argument which could become as bitter as that about the Somerset Levels. The bird refuge on 400 acres of Seal Sands on the western side of the estuary are recognized officially in Britain as a site of special scientific interest.

They also make up one of fewer than 250 sites worldwide which are accepted as being wetlands of international importance for wildlife under the Ramsar convention of 1971. But naturalists fear that they are not being given enough protection against reclamation.

They are angry about a deal worked out at a meeting from which they were excluded. Local councils and the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority were asked to the meeting by Mr William Waldegrave, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

Naturalists were worried about statutory powers which would enable the authority to start reclaiming the sands without consultation. The authority agreed at the meeting to submit any such proposal for planning approval, and so risk a veto by ministers.

The Nature Conservancy Council, the main wildlife "wango", decided in the light of that deal to reject appeals from naturalists to press the Government for a nature conservation order on the site. Such orders give ministers the toughest safeguards available under wildlife law, but are meant to be used only when important sites face immediate threats.

The council decided that the port authority's acceptance of a planning constraint meant that there was no immediate threat. But Friends of the Earth insisted that a conservation order was essential.

Mr Christopher Rose, the organization's countryside campaigner, said: "This new deal does not change the situation as far as nature conservation is concerned. Thousands of birds may perish because of Civil Service ineptitude and the minister's decision."

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said the area should be declared a national nature reserve. Mr Ian Armstrong, the society's regional officer for northern England, said that it was not satisfied with the new deal.

not make a deduction "just to be on the safe side".

The letter adds: "When a voluntary unemployment decision is subsequently found to be incorrect, local officers must refund the arrears. Staff who fail to do so are illegally depriving claimants of benefit."

New training notes are being prepared to make sure that staff understand and apply the rules. Meanwhile, both the DHSS and the Department of Employment, whose local office managers have been sent a similar letter, have stopped destroying case papers after one year in the hope of being able to identify some of the people whose benefits were wrongly reduced.

But only a minority of the people affected will be found in that way, Mr Tony Lynes, a special adviser on social security to the last Labour Government, said yesterday. He pointed out that most people affected are now back in work and do not know that they had wrongly been underpaid benefit.

Benefits staff ordered to pay

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

In one of the most strongly worded letters ever issued by a government department, social security and unemployment benefit office managers have been told to take immediate action to ensure that unemployed claimants are no longer wrongly deprived of benefit. Staff will be told that they are breaking the law if they do not refund benefits wrongly withheld.

The letter, issued last Wednesday to regional and local social security managers, reflects the anger and embarrassment of ministers at widespread blunders identified by the Social Security Policy Inspectorate. The letter was issued on the day that the government announced that it would, after all, take steps to repay benefit wrongly deducted from people who were dismissed or resigned their jobs. Estimates based on figures released by the Department of

Health and Social Security (DHSS) suggest that 56,000 people have been underpaid by up to £1.2m because of errors by social security staff.

Tomorrow the Commons is due to debate proposals to end the present "compassion clause" allowing 20 per cent of benefit to be deducted in cases of hardship, instead of the 40 per cent applied to people deliberately becoming unemployed. The letter indicates that ministers feel it would be more difficult to effect that change if they cannot reassure MPs that the rules are now being followed properly.

The letter says: "It is, of course, indefensible if existing procedures are operated incorrectly at a time when amending regulations reducing the criteria for the lower rate deduction are being processed by ministers."

It instructs managers to take steps to ensure that staff are familiar with the rules and apply them properly. Staff must be made aware that they must

Shock tactics for armoured riot-beater

By Rodney Cowton
Defence Correspondent

A formidable new vehicle for controlling riots will soon go into production in Britain. It is being promoted in the Far East and South America, but not in Britain nor, at present, in Europe.

It will be equipped with an intimidating array of defensive and offensive systems, including:

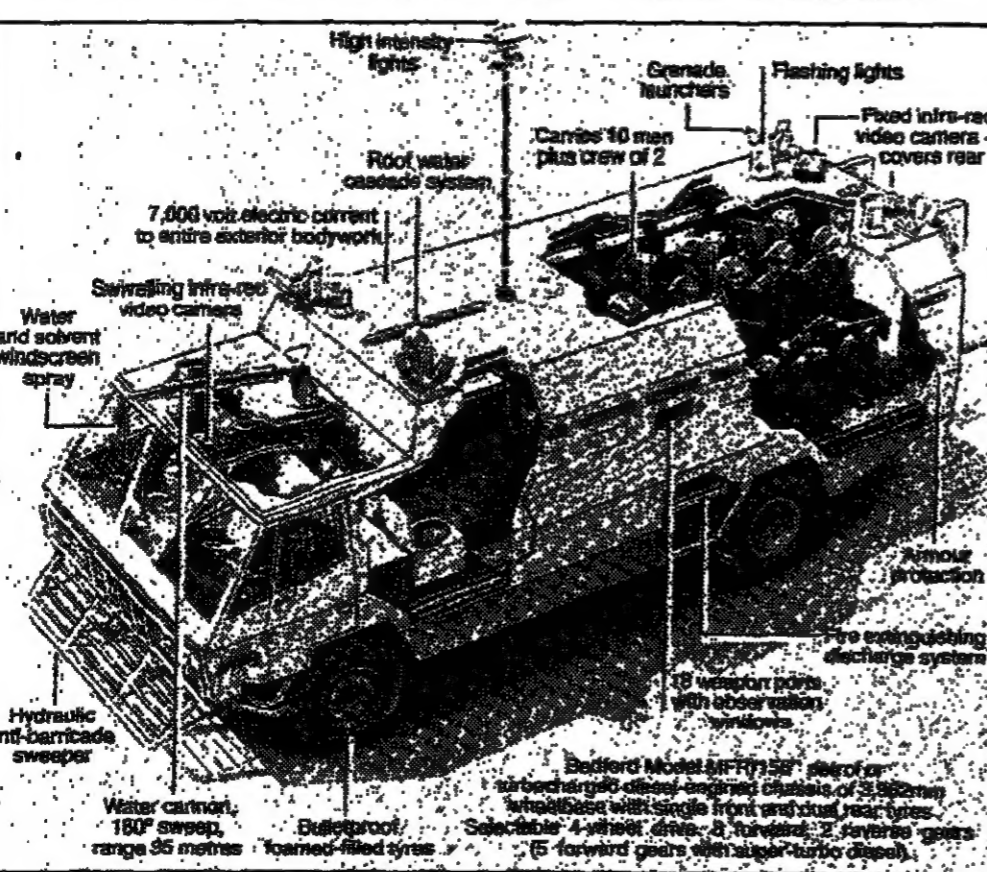
- 16 grenade-launchers;
- 18 gun ports;
- A 7,000-volt electrical charge running through the bodywork's external skin;
- Armoured bodywork;
- High-pressure water cannon capable of knocking over a vehicle and also able to spray dye so that suspects can be identified;
- Searchlights and floodlights;
- Infra-red camera.

The vehicle is equipped with other facilities. The armoured bodywork is claimed to be waterproof and airtight and can be closed down, allowing the crew inside to survive for more than an hour using the air-conditioning and oxygen supplies. It has a chemical lavatory.

The windscreen-washers can dispense white spirit for removing paint or other materials thrown at it, and the windscreen-wipers are fitted with what are described as "heavy-duty household brushes", also for removing paint and other materials.

The vehicle has a "cow-catcher" on the front for pushing aside barricades and other obstacles.

The AMAC-1 as it is known, will be built on to a heavy-duty Bedford chassis.



The bodywork fabrication will be carried out by Hampshire Transtech, of Southampton. The vehicle will be marketed by the AMAC Corporation, a British company based in London.

Mr Paul Latham, AMAC's marketing director, said: "It is not an aggressive vehicle essentially. It is designed to avoid people killing each other. It is intended to look and be frightening."

If objects were thrown at the vehicle, he said, it had various levels of defence, the most important being its armour protection and bullet-proof tyres.

Mr Latham said the 7,000-volt charge in the exterior of the bodywork, when switched on, would deliver a 2-amp shock to anyone touching it. This would be enough "for people to get a bit of a nasty

shock and receive a burn", but it would not kill.

The first prototype is expected to be ready by Christmas, and production is hoped to be running at five a week by 1985.

Mr Latham said his company was close to agreement on a first order for 20 vehicles from a Middle East country. It is also being promoted in Pakistan, India, Indonesia and parts of South America.

Finance firms in talks to save Scots paper

Agents for a proposed consortium of financial institutions will spend today and tomorrow in talks aimed at saving the *Sunday Standard* newspaper, which is due to close next week.

The talks in Glasgow with the newspaper's publishers, Longhorn-owned George Outram company, follow an examination of the newspaper's books by MacDonald Orr, the Edinburgh financial consultants.

The consultants have been commissioned to do the study by Parsons and Company, the Glasgow stockbrokers. Scottish financial circles are believed to be showing considerable interest.

The move, if successful, would safeguard most of the 38 journalists' jobs at risk. A decision is expected within a few days.

Listed 1930s church faces demolition

By Our Environment Correspondent

A 50-year-old church in Brighton may soon be demolished despite protests that it is a sound structure of great architectural value. St Winifred's is considered by Sir John Betjeman to be "about the best churches church there is". It carries an official listing of grade two, the highest rating of historic interest that can be given to a twentieth century building.

But churches are outside normal historic building controls, and St Winifred's is reaching the end of the three-year period during which officers of alternative uses are invited after a declaration of redundancy.

One reason for declaring the church redundant in 1980 was because some of the roofs had

been lined with an acoustic coating containing asbestos. Many local authorities are stripping public buildings of asbestos, because of a danger that the minute fibres can be inhaled. They can cause rare cancers by puncturing lung linings.

St Winifred's was designed by H. S. Goodhart-Rendel (1887-1959) whose work includes many churches and the head offices of Hay's Wharf on the south bank of the Thames in London. The brick structure of St Winifred's served only a small parish, and has no future as a church.

The Advisory Board for Redundant Churches will decide next week whether to allow demolition.

Etruscan wreck damaged by looters

By Our Archaeology Correspondent

Looters have damaged an Etruscan shipwreck off the coast of Italy in the middle of excavations by a British-Italian team. Corinthian vases from southern Greece, dating to about 600 BC and worth a large amount on the art market, have been stolen.

The looters used powerful suction equipment to strip deposits from round the vases, and left what Mr Michael Mennam Bound, the project's director, described as "an enormous bomb crater". Three men were detained on the island of Giglio, south of Elba, where the wreck is located.

The Giglio wreck is one of the earliest ships known, excelled in age only by the "royal barge" of the Pharaoh Cheops.



Security conference anger

Malta under attack by East and West at Madrid

From Harry Debellus,
Madrid

Malta stuck to its position under a withering verbal cross-fire from East and West here yesterday, blocking agreement on a final document at the conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

The Soviet Union and the United States teamed up in the rhetorical bombardment aimed at convincing or obliging Mr Evarist Saliba, the Maltese delegate, to drop his lone demand for changes in the proposed final document to reflect Malta's plans for security in the Mediterranean.

In an unusual Sunday plenary session, scheduled like the one on Saturday in the hope of surmounting the impasse on this ninth day after the other 34 Helsinki nations reached agreement, Mr Anatoly Kovalev, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, warned Mr Saliba that there was a growing gap between Malta and the other Helsinki nations.

He claimed that the Maltese representative was "distorting the question of consensus" and he demanded to know what made Mr Saliba think that the Maltese Government had a monopoly on the question of Mediterranean security.

Mr Edward Kilham, the deputy chairman of the United States delegation, urged the Maltese representative to act with realism and responsibility. A French delegate accused Mr



Mr Saliba: Sticking to his guns.

Saliba of practising a "destructive abuse" of the process of consensus.

Mr Saliba told the gathering he would not bother to inform his Government about events of the Sunday session, since he was under instructions to report only in the case of some change in the situation.

After the meeting, he remarked: "They are not just closing doors in my face. They are slamming them."

Malta, alone among the 35 participating nations, wants a mandate for a separate Mediterranean conference to be included in the final document, as well as certain other specific references to Mediterranean security as it is seen by the Maltese Government.

Police hunt Singapore murderers

Singapore (Reuters) - Police launched a hunt for two men yesterday after a businessman, his wife and maid were murdered.

Mr Robert Tay Bak Hong, aged 63, was found bludgeoned to death and his wife Annie Lou Ai Yee, aged 40, and maid Doby Verador, aged 27, strangled by raffia.

The bodies were found when police stormed the house after a three-hour siege. The dead man, the managing director of an electrical appliance firm, was reported to have been forced to go to a bank for money before being killed.

His daughter, Dawn Tay, 10, and her tutor - who were also held hostage - escaped unharm. First reports said two men, one in his early twenties with a rifle, entered the house while the daughter was having lessons.

Clashes over flag leave 60 hurt in Basque town

From Our Correspondent Madrid

The secessionist Basque party Herri Batasuna was yesterday planning further demonstrations in Renteria, near San Sebastian, after clashes there over the flying of the Spanish flag had already resulted in about 60 injuries in three days. The town's annual fiesta was cancelled.

The party, which is the legalized political front organization of the outlawed terrorist group ETA, also participated in an attempt to stage a similar demonstration on Saturday. However, police took special precautions, sealing off the town and checking on the movements of anyone who aroused their suspicions, in order to prevent the demonstration.

There were a few scuffles between small groups and policemen on Saturday, but for the most part the police action effectively stopped the protest.

Incidents in Renteria began last Thursday, when Basque separatists tried to tear down

the red-and-yellow Spanish flag which was flying from a mast outside the town hall beside the red-white-and-green flag of the Basque country.

Policemen reacted vigorously. A number of policemen were among the injured in the mêlée in which iron bars, bicycle chains, clubs and other weapons were used.

Suspected members of ETA killed a businessman with a shot in the back of the head in the Basque capital of Vitoria on Saturday for failing to pay "revolutionary taxes".

The turmoil in the Basque provinces coincides with a build-up of political tension which was evident at a meeting on Friday in Madrid between Señor Felix Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, and Señor Carlos Garamakoz, the president of the Basque regional government. The meeting failed to resolve differences between the central and regional governments about the handing over of certain powers.

Strauss meets Honecker in political about-turn

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, yesterday had a private meeting with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, at a hunting lodge near Berlin, where he also had talks with other members of the Communist Party of Germany.

The meeting, rumoured for the past two weeks, comes after Herr Strauss's unexpected and controversial initiative in proposing a DM1,000m (about £250m) loan to East Germany and marks a political about-turn in relations between East and West Germany.

Herr Strauss was travelling with his wife and son through East Germany after making a private visit to Poland, where he also had talks with Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Primate. Herr Strauss and his family were invited to have lunch with Herr Honecker at Werbellinsee, where the East German leader has traditionally received West German politicians, including Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, who visited earlier this year.

The official East German news agency, ADN, which has strongly criticized Herr Strauss in the past, announced the

meeting yesterday in a five-line dispatch. Several West German journalists based in East Berlin were taken by bus to the hunting lodge, but so far no details of the talks have emerged.

Herr Honecker would certainly have wanted to know whether Herr Strauss's backing for the credit - which cost him political support in Bavaria - marks a change in his previously tough policy towards East Berlin, and whether his Christian Social Union party is now prepared to give full backing to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's policy of trying to improve relations between the two countries.

While in Poland, Herr Strauss called for increased Western help for the Polish economy, and said the lifting of martial law was a step in the right direction. He said he understood the need to check the chaos in Poland, and believed the situation had stabilized. He drove to East Germany after almost a week in Poland.

Ivory Coast leader visits Britain

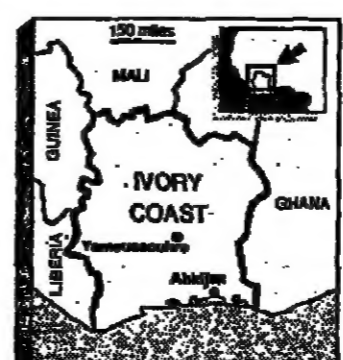
Architect of an African success story

By Henry Stenhouse
Diplomatic Correspondent

The most acceptable face of black Africa arrives in Britain tomorrow for his first official visit for 21 years. It belongs to President Félix Houphouët-Boigny who, when the Ivory Coast won independence from France in 1960, looked like its most valuable asset.

He still does, which is why Western countries view his advance towards 80 (he is allegedly 77) with misgivings: the greatest success story of modern Africa now drawing to a close?

The country with which comparisons are usually made is Ghana. The Ivory Coast is much the same size and shape as its eastern neighbour and endures a similar climate. One difference at independence was that the Gold Coast was potentially rich while the Ivory Coast was potentially poor.



Nkrumah, the latter by Mr Houphouët-Boigny, - a former French Cabinet minister and liberal capitalist with a Thatcherite concern for balancing the books.

During the next 20 years he guided his country of 70 ethnic groupings and 40 languages towards a unity and strength which is the envy of West Africa. With few mineral resources to exploit, he concentrated on agriculture, building

up crops until the Ivory Coast became the world's leading exporter of cocoa and third biggest producer of coffee.

His need for the 50,000 French expatriates meant that he not only tolerated their presence but encouraged them to stay - and their number has actually grown. French is the official language and half a battalion of French marines are based near Abidjan airport, maintaining a low profile.

Aspiring young Ivorians have to rely upon merit to win jobs from Frenchmen, a principle which sometimes causes resentment. Mr Houphouët-Boigny rejects xenophobia and two million "guest workers" the majority of them from Upper Volta, remain in his country. Corruption, by African standards, is scant.

The last few years have been difficult for the Ivory Coast. Mr Houphouët-Boigny borrowed heavily during the 1970s, to



Mr Houphouët-Boigny: His country's best asset.

finance what looked like a far-sighted investment programme for his country's future. The lean years have also encouraged him to diversify, loosening the French connexion if only to seek fresh markets elsewhere. France now supplies less than half of the country's imports. Britain's share remains less than three per cent.

Malta under
by East
West at M

THE KEY FEATURES YOU GET IF YOU BUY EVERY COMPACT COPIER IN THE WORLD.

☐ **Automatic Paper-size Selection:** automatic selection of the right paper cassette to match the size of your original.

☐ **Automatic Magnification Selection:** automatic reduction/enlargement of your original to fit exactly the chosen copy format.

☐ **Zoom Reduction/Enlargement:** stepless reduction or enlargement that allows you to choose the exact image area you require.

☐ **User-set Reduction/Enlargement:** where you can preset a number of different magnification ratios to suit your specific needs.

☐ **Factory-set Reduction/Enlargement:** where the most commonly-used magnification ratios are preset by the manufacturer: eg. A3 reduction to A4, A5 enlargement to A4, etc.

☐ **Fully-integrated System Design:** where the copier is designed to accept such "intelligent" accessories as a document feeder and sorter in order to allow full copy processing capability.

☐ **Automatic Document Feeder:** where many originals can be automatically processed by the copier.

☐ **Semi-automatic Document Feeder:** where originals are fed in individually by hand for copying with automatic sorting if required.

☐ **Automatic Sorter:** fully-integrated sorting or stacking of copy sets into individual "bins" for easier handling.

☐ **Multiple-choice Cassette System:** where more than one paper cassette is used in order to give a choice of copy sizes.

☐ **Variable Exposure Control:** lets you lighten or darken the image density as required.

☐ **LED Exposure Display:** provides fast visual check on exposure setting.

☐ **Universal Cassette System:** where one cassette can be used to hold many different paper sizes.

☐ **Manual Feed Table:** permits easy copying on both sides of the copy paper or on to other materials such as card, overhead film, labels, etc.

☐ **Automatic Self-monitoring:** gives continuous feedback on all aspects of the copier condition.

☐ **Alphabetical/Numerical Condition Indicator:** quickly pinpoints trouble spots for rapid servicing.

☐ **Micro-processor Control:** this is where the copy process is controlled through micro-processors.

☐ **Flat Paper Feed Path:** helps to avoid paper jams — allows easier clearing should a jam occur.

☐ **Copy Direction Indicator:** tells you in which direction to set the original — horizontally or vertically — eliminates copy errors caused by incorrect placement.

☐ **Cartridge Toner Supply:** fast, easy mounting of toner supply with no smudging of fingers, paper or machine.

☐ **Multiple-copying Preset:** an electronically-controlled preset "memory" allowing up to 99 consecutive copies to be made.

☐ **Automatic Image Density Control:** continuous monitoring of the originals with automatic measurement and control of the toner supply in order to ensure a stable image density.

☐ **Total Check:** a pushbutton-activated electronic display giving the total number of copies made.

☐ **Mechanical Copy Counter:** automatically records the total number and size of copies made.

☐ **Paper-size Indicator:** visual indication of the selected copy size.

☐ **Automatic Page Sequencing:** where the integrated feeder automatically stacks the copied originals face-up and in the correct order.

☐ **Dual-body Design:** where the upper half of the copier hinges upwards to give easier access for servicing and repair.

☐ **Dual-hinged Original Cover:** fixes any original firmly to the platen including 3D objects such as books or bound documents.

☐ **Energy-saving Position:** when the copier shuts off between copying operations with immediate warm-up or saves power during "stand-by."

☐ **Original Leftover Warning:** an audible signal that activates when an original has been left in the copier beyond a certain time period (usually about 10 secs.).

☐ **Electronic Paper-selection:** allows you to switch between different cassettes at the touch of a button.

☐ **Multi-copy Display:** provides a visual readout of the number of copies ordered with automatic count-down to the final copy.

☐ **Interrupt Mode:** lets the operator interrupt a multiple copy run in order to make one-off copies.

☐ **Clear/Stop Control:** allows the operator to cancel a multiple copy run or to reset copy mode back to zero in case of error.

☐ **Micro-Toning System:** a developing process based on an exceptionally fine-grained micro carrier and even-grained micro-toner for outstanding copy contrast.

☐ **Input Retention "Memory":** where the input copy ordering information is electronically memorised for automatic recall in case of misfeeds or other stoppages.

☐ **Toner Recycling:** where excess toner is automatically separated and recycled for future use.

☐ **Auto-reset:** where automatic functions return to their original state within 60 seconds of operation on the manual setting, thereby helping to avoid wasted copies.

☐ **Multi-purpose Print Button:** where the Print button also collects and disseminates operating condition information by means of colours or symbols or both.

☐ **Edge-to-edge Copying:** where the image fills the copy from edge-to-edge with no annoying cut-off.

☐ **Dry Toner Developing:** where the developing system uses a "clean" dry toner powder as opposed to less stable liquid alternative.

☐ **One-to-one A3 Copying:** the ability to accept and copy A3 originals directly on to A3-sized copy paper.

☐ **Misfeed Monitoring and Display:** automatic identification of a paper misfeed with a simultaneous visual warning signal.

☐ **Single-belt Design:** leaves no belt mark on copies when operating with a document feeder during reduction mode.

☐ **Fixed-platen Design:** where the scanner itself moves so that the platen remains stationary.

Fierce fighting in Kurdish mountains as Iraqis resist Iranian offensive

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran said yesterday its forces had repulsed an Iraqi counter-attack in the Kurdish mountains of northern Iraq, where it launched a big offensive on Saturday.

The news agency Irna said Iranian troops beat back the Iraqi attack in a two-hour battle on Saturday night, killing more than 100 Iraqi soldiers and wounding at least 150.

In Baghdad a military spokesman said fierce fighting was still raging in the area early yesterday and Iraqi troops had killed more than 1,400 Iraqis.

Before news of the Iraqi counter-attack reached Tehran, official Iranian communiqués said Iran had achieved the main objectives of the offensive, the first big action in the 34-month Gulf war since battles farther south in April.

The communiqués said that after a day of fighting Iranian forces had captured a military base at Haj Omran, four miles inside Iraq. Iran says the base has supplied Kurdish rebels in Iraq for the past three years.

The communiqués said the Iraqis had also taken the King Mountain heights, which overlook Haj Omran from

altitudes of up to 3,500 ft. They said the heights had been a base for Iraqi artillery attacks on Iranian border villages.

Iran's report on the counter-attack gave few details of the fighting, except to say there had been intense artillery duels.

Tehran Radio later quoted a military communiqué as saying Iranian troops were reinforcing their positions in newly occupied Iraqi territory and were shelling Iraqi lines.

The communiqué said the Iraqis now controlled nine miles of territory from the border along the route towards the Iraqi town of Rawandiz.

Tehran Radio also quoted Mr Mir Hossein Mousavi, the Prime Minister, as saying a number of Iranian Kurdish rebels had been captured during the offensive.

Mr Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Parliament, said yesterday Iranian dissidents, including supporters of the late Shah, the ousted Mujahedin-E-Khalq guerrillas, and Kurdish rebels, had fought beside Iraqi regular troops in the latest battles.

Iran also quoted him as

saying the Iranian offensive had been mounted by a joint force, including regular troops, paramilitary Revolutionary Guards, "mobilization corps" volunteers, Iraqi dissidents and Kurds.

The mountain region where the fighting is taking place is a sensitive area for both Iran and Iraq because it is the home of Kurdish tribal groups which have fought the central governments in Tehran and Baghdad for many years.

● BAGHDAD: An Iraqi military spokesman said three Iranian infantry battalions, a mechanized battalion and two commando battalions had been wiped out. Huge quantities of Iranian weapons and ammunition were also destroyed, he said.

The spokesman did not give Iraqi casualties, which Iran put on Saturday night at more than 3,600 killed or wounded. He said scores of Kurdish rebels fighting with the Iraqis, had been killed.

An Iraqi communiqué issued on Saturday said groups of Kurds were fighting on both sides in the battle.



Looking ahead: An Israeli boy peers through the sights of a machine-gun mounted on a tank at a military exhibition in Tel Aviv.

Why Israeli digs are becoming battlefields

By Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Archaeology in the Holy Land is under threat. A violent campaign of mass rallies and political pressure has been mounted by the militant ultra-orthodox community, including many anti-Zionist zealots who refuse to recognise the state of Israel.

Today the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel Party - whose supporters vital for the survival of the ruling Likud coalition - plans to table amendments to the archaeological law. In the Knesset which experts believe would seriously hamper digging by prohibiting excavations at any site where the rabbinical authorities believe there might be a Jewish grave.

Many Israelis see the proposed legislation as another attempt to enforce orthodox religious practices on a country where divisions between the secular and religious communities are becoming increasingly bitter. At present the Ministry of Education licenses archaeological work.

The respected Israel Exploration Society has launched a fierce campaign against the amendment, which it claims is phrased "in the most extreme terms". Professor Avraham Biran, a member, has called on Parliament not to bow to what he described as "coalition blackmail by a minority".

The campaign to bring digs under the supervision of the religious authorities is being backed by extra-parliamentary pressure, which has included the desecration of the graves of one of the country's most distinguished archaeologists, Professor Eliezer Sakenis and his wife.

The gravestone of the professor - whose archaeological son, Mr Yigal Yadin, supervised the excavations at Masada - was smashed before dawn on Friday and drenched with graffiti. Two weeks earlier, a similar assault by zealots was made on the grave of Mr Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, the famous lexicographer.

Over the past fortnight, Jerusalem has experienced the worst rioting of the year with mass protests organized by religious extremists against continued digging at the famous City of David site, which they claim contains a medieval Jewish cemetery.

In Mes Shearim, the overcrowded ultra-orthodox neighbourhood near the city centre, Hebrew posters were being stuck on walls yesterday announcing another mass protest this morning.

One of the protest organizers, Rabbi Moshe Hirsch, the self-styled "foreign minister" of Neturei Karta, the most fanatical of the Hassidic sects, said: "We plan to pursue this campaign until we have buried the diggers and Zionism. Our boys are prepared for any violence the police may use against us."

Already police riot squads have had to use tear gas and batons to control the anti-archaeological protesters, who are frequently whipped into a state of near hysteria by leaders who allege that those working at the City of David site are surreptitiously moving ancient Jewish bones.

Rabbi Hirsch, complete with flowing white beard and broad-brimmed black hat, was released from jail on Friday after being held for eight days for allegedly inciting a "revolt".

The rabbi, who was born in New York, declined to elaborate on what action the zealots plan against the City of David site, terming the details "a military secret". He spoke bitterly about the Israeli Government as the "Zionist enemy" and hinted that the black-coated members of his sect had weapons with which to support their demands.

Gandhi pledge

Delhi (Reuters) - Mrs I. Gandhi, the Prime Minister, switched on India's first domestically built nuclear power station at the weekend and pledged to use atomic energy only for peaceful purposes. The plant, at Kalpakkam in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, was designed and built by Indian scientists and engineers.

Pakistani to command Zimbabwe Air Force

By Reuters (Rustan)

Air Vice-Marshal Asim Daudpota of Pakistan has been appointed commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force. A government spokesman said on Saturday he had been given air marshal's rank and would assume his duties immediately. He replaces Air Marshal Norman Walsh, a white Zimbabwean, who retired last May.

Diplomatic sources said Air Marshal Daudpota had been assigned to Zimbabwe as part of a Pakistani assistance deal for the Air Force. They believed that Pakistan would supply about 30 trained men, including pilots, technicians and administrators.

21 killed in crashes

Paris (AFP, AP) - Nine people were killed yesterday when two cars collided head-on in south-west Paris. A tenth person was seriously injured.

In West Germany, 12 people died in two air crashes. A turboprop carrying eight people crashed into the North Sea off the island of Borkum and four people died when a Cessna crashed in the Bavarian town of Neumarkt.

Polish release

War (Reuters) - Polish authorities yesterday began a programme to release political prisoners under the limited amnesty marking the end of martial law. A Justice Ministry official said.

Craxi consults

Rome - Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist Italian Prime Minister-designate, expects to complete consultations this week with other political party leaders to form a government by mid-August.

PC shoots 23

Delhi (Reuters) - A police constable went berserk at a temple in central India, shooting dead 23 people and wounding 10 before he was killed by a police patrol.

Zia's plea

Islamabad (Reuters) - President Zia ul-Haq said the Soviet Union should be helped to end its military presence in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan took Moscow's assurances about a willingness to withdraw its estimated 105,000 troops at face value.

Sixth appeal

Castelgandolfo (AP) - The Pope made his sixth appeal for the daughter of a Vatican employee, believed held by kidnappers to win the release from prison of Mehmet Ali Agca, who tried to kill the Pope in 1981.

Muslims held

Cairo (Reuters) - Egyptian security police have arrested 25 members of a Muslim extremist group on charges of plotting to overthrow the Government by force, the semi-official daily Al-Ahram reported.

Ceausescu pact

Nairobi (AP) - President Ceausescu of Romania signed an economic cooperation pact with Somalia during his weekend visit to the pre-Western country. He joint communiqué called for increased exchanges of Somali and Romanian party officials.

Korchnoi move

Geneva (AP) - Victor Korchnoi, the chess grandmaster, has filed for divorce from his wife Bela a year after Russia allowed her and his family to join him in Swiss exile, his manager said.

Peruvian toll

Lima (Reuters) - Left-wing guerrillas have killed 26 peasants in four incidents in Peru's Andean province of Ayacucho in the past week, the provincial military command said yesterday.

US denies hindering peace move

From John Carlin, Mexico City

President Reagan's special Central American envoy, Mr Richard Stone, said in Panama at the weekend that the United States was not intervening in the peace initiative launched by the Contadora Group, but was giving it moral support.

He said this in answer to a reporter who asked if conciliatory gestures coming from Washington in the last few days were a smokescreen for its real purpose in Central America, aggression against Nicaragua.

The envoy was speaking on the third leg of a Latin American tour on which he is discussing Central American peace proposals put forward a week ago in Cancun, Mexico, by the presidents of the countries in the Contadora Group - Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama.

In Panama City, Mr Stone met President Ricardo de la Espriella and other leaders. Nothing has been given away on the subjects discussed, but comments by Señor Juan José Amado, Panama's Foreign Minister, indicate there might have been a certain friction between Mr Reagan's envoy and Panamanian officials.

In an interview, Señor Amado said the recent decision by Washington to send warships to Central America's west coast was ill-timed.

Officials in Colombia and Venezuela, the next countries Mr Stone plans to visit, echoed Señor Amado's words, reflecting the hostility in the Latin American press to what is seen as a contradiction between Mr Stone's apparent peace mission, the conciliatory statements he is making, and Washington's provocative actions.

US environment official cleared at contempt trial

Washington (Reuters) - Miss Rita Lavelle, a former Environmental Protection Agency official, was found not guilty at the weekend of contempt of Congress for failing to obey a subpoena to testify before a congressional subcommittee.

The 12-member jury deliberated for 90 minutes on Friday before delivering the surprise verdict. Miss Lavelle, aged 35, who headed the agency's toxic waste clean-up programme until she was dismissed by President Reagan in February, was cited for contempt of Congress for refusing to appear on March 21 before a House of Representatives subcommittee.

The subcommittee was one of several investigating the agency's handling of a \$1.6 billion (\$1 billion) "superfund" allocated by Congress for the clean-up of toxic waste sites. Miss Lavelle was cleared after a two-day trial.

Freed dogs of war soon fall out

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The six "dogs of war", pardoned by President Albert René and deported from the Seychelles, arrived back in South Africa this weekend snarling at each other. They said they believed one of them would have "stopped at nothing" to save his own skin, even in exchange for the lives of his fellow prisoners.

Mr Bernard Carey, a Briton aged 40, who was one of four of the captives sentenced to death, said he blamed this unnamed man for telling the Seychelles authorities he was second-in-command of the "Froth Blowers" raiding party led by Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare in November, 1981, in an abortive attempt to oust President René.

Mr Carey, a "professional adventurer" who with Mr Roger England, aged 27, a former paratrooper and fellow Briton has been given a permit to stay in South Africa for 14 days, claimed: "Because of this I suffered a terrible amount of punishment and ended up in hospital very badly beaten."

Two of the other freed mercenaries, Mr Jeremiah Puren, aged 59, a second-hand car dealer from Durban, and Mr Roger Sims, who is Colonel Hoare's brother-in-law, also spoke of one of their number as "a hated man".

The six arrived at Jan Smuts airport, near Johannesburg, on board a British Airways airliner on Saturday to an ecstatic and excited welcome from a large crowd of relatives and friends. Later, when Mr Puren and Mr Carey reached Durban,

they were cheered at the airport - where Colonel Hoare and the rest of the "Froth Blowers" landed in a hijacked Air India Boeing after their escape from the Seychelles - like returning heroes.

Colonel Hoare is serving a 10-year prison sentence for the hijack, but 34 other mercenaries, who were given the maximum five-year sentence under South Africa's anti-hijacking Air Offences Act, were freed conditionally after six months.

Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, indicated this weekend that the South African authorities had no further interest in the case. "I am finished with the Seychelles affair," he said.

The six freed men all hinted they knew more about who was behind the bungled coup than yet been revealed. Mr Puren, said the plot to overthrow President René and install Mr James Manenham - ousted in a bloodless coup in 1977 - was first suggested in 1979 by Seychelles exiles.

It was to be backed by Middle East business interests.

● VICTORIA: The Seychelles Government has announced that elections to the one-party National Assembly will be held. The last assembly's term expired last month, Leslie Plummer writes. The Seychelles People's Progressive is the country's sole political party, with branches choosing Assembly members.



Love-all: Tennis stars John McEnroe and Vitas Gerulaitis harmonious at a New York charity concert on Saturday night.

Man in the news Habib's imperturbable heir

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's new Middle East peace envoy, is a strong and silent man - a former Marine Corps colonel who exudes confidence and quiet charm. Under fire he would be imperturbable.

He is also publicity-shy. Though the politically moderate and soft-spoken Mr McFarlane is a power in the President's National Security Council, his name and photographs have seldom appeared in the press.

Hitherto, he has met journalists mainly to conduct background briefings on big international, security and arms control issues. It was made clear that he was only to be referred to as "a high administration official".

So Mr McFarlane, aged 46, who is deputy to Mr William Clark, the President's National Security Adviser, remains the "quintessential staff man".

He is one of the main shapers of the Administration's foreign and national security policies, but very much behind the scenes, working long hours in the White House. He shies from taking credit.

Mr McFarlane was born on July 12, 1937. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1959 with a degree in electrical engineering. He also studied international relations at the Institut des Hautes Etudes in Geneva. He and his wife, Jondra, have three children.

Mr McFarlane, a six-footer, resigned from the Marines in 1979 after a 24-year military career. Before becoming a presidential aide, he was a counsellor at the State Department for a year. He was on the staff of the



McFarlane: Policy-shaper

11 killed by rebels in Uganda

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

In the latest wave of killings in Uganda, 11 people were backed to death at the Namale agricultural research station, near here, by men described by the Government as bandits, its term for anti-Government guerrillas.

Radio Uganda said five of them were killed with axes, knives and other weapons in the officers' club at the station, while the others were attacked in houses nearby. The radio said some villagers were also killed in the same raid. The area is close to one where a similar attack was carried out a few weeks ago.

In the Luwero district, a few miles farther north, two opposition MPs - Mr Kisamba Mugerwa and Mr Jol Senteza - have been arrested for allegedly cooperating with guerrillas.

PLO executive summons emergency session

Tunis (AFP, Reuters) - The Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee yesterday called for the normalization of relations between Syria and the PLO.

The executive committee said after meeting on Friday and Saturday with Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, in the chair, that an emergency special session of the Palestinian Central Council would be called.

The call came amid reports of a fresh outbreak of fighting between Fatah factions in the Bekaa Valley, in eastern Lebanon.

The Central Council is the intermediary body between the executive committee and the Palestinian National Council, or parliament.

The Central Council meeting, the first since the rebellion by dissident Fatah officers, is likely to be held before the end of the month.

Yesterday M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, arrived here for a surprise 24-hour visit and met Mr Arafat.

The meeting was part of a fact-finding mission on Middle East issues Mr Cheysson began earlier this month when he went to Syria, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel.

His talks with Mr Arafat were aimed at keeping France informed on latest developments; but did not herald a French mediation attempt to solve Syrian-Palestinian differences, diplomatic sources said.

The meeting took place at the home of Mr Hakam Belauzi, representative in Tunisia, at La Marsa, near Tunis.

M Cheysson, who later left for Algeria, also met Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian Foreign Minister, and Mr C. Hedil Klibi, the Arab League Secretary-General, who is going to Damascus on a mediation mission as a member of the Arab conciliation committee.

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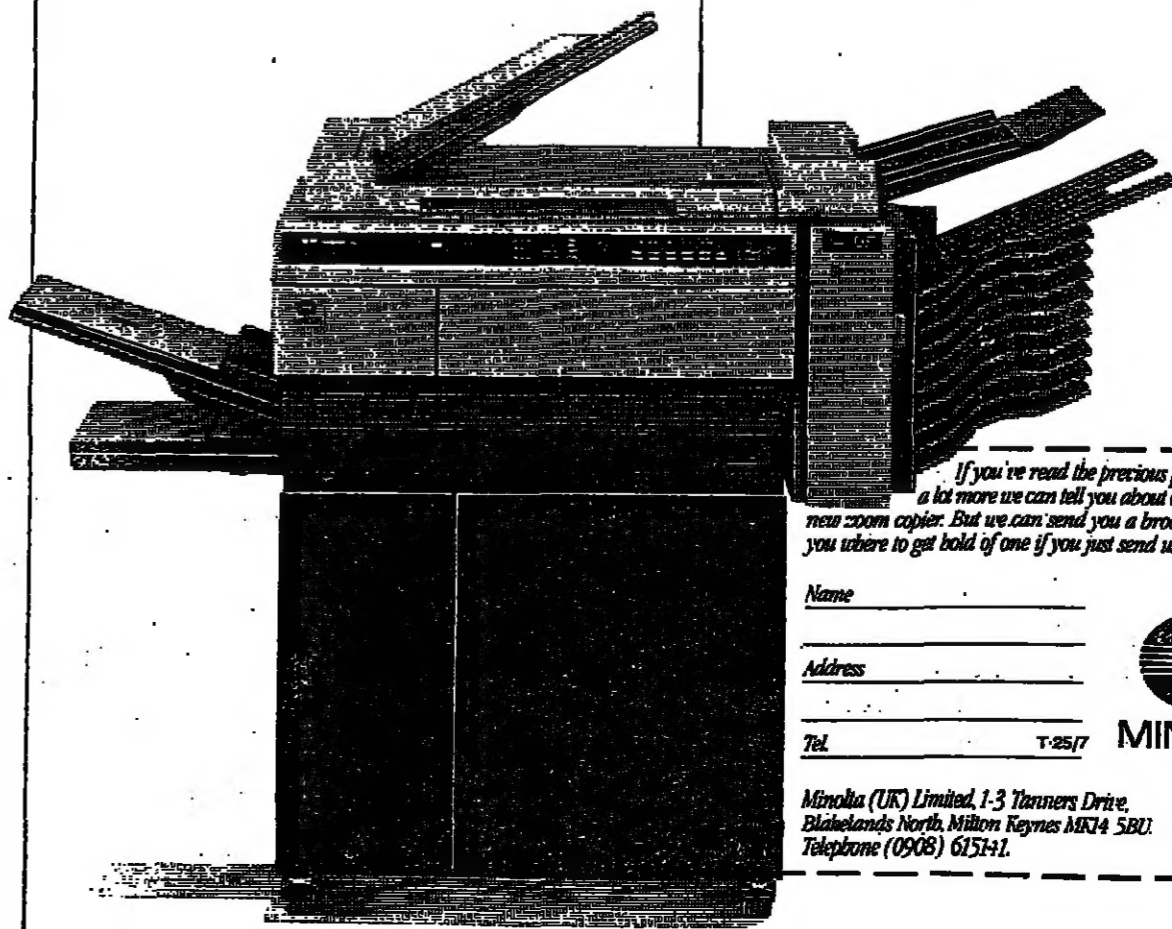
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Fight for national interest in EEC switches to quotas of fish and steel

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Two more difficult and probably angry meetings of the EEC's Council of Ministers are scheduled to start today in Brussels. This time the arguments are over fish and steel, as last week they were over money.

Last week every member of the Community fought to protect its own vested cash interests. Today and tomorrow they will fight just as hard to protect their quotas of fish and steel. Everybody wants a larger slice of the cake because the size of the cake is shrinking.

Britain was not surprised last week when it was voted down over the size of its cash rebate. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, went out of his way two days before the budget council started, to warn ministers against any move to tinker with the agreed amounts. He would have done so only if he felt the rebate was in danger.

The whole incident has soured relations inside the Community at a time when the spirit of compromise is desperately needed if the EEC is to survive as an effective organization capable of protecting its interests in the world.

Good will, despite all the good intentions voiced at

summit meetings, seems to be totally lacking. The very day after the Stuttgart summit agreed that more had to be done to open internal frontiers and create a real common market, a special council met and agreed nothing on this very point.

Last week, foreign ministers discussed again how to reshape the Community's regional fund and again they agreed on nothing. The number of cases before the European Court for breaking obligations by member states is increasing.

The outlook for the two councils today is extremely pessimistic. All in all, it seems that just as the argument in Britain about Community membership ought to be dead and buried, the question arises as to whether member states care enough about the Community to want it to continue any more.

The argument over the British budget contribution has coincided with the time when the Community for a variety of reasons is running out of funds and ideas. The fact that Britain insists on paying a smaller share of the running expenses does contribute to the financial crisis.

But what is showing up in a stark profile is the fact that any

country's commitment to the European ideal varies in direct relationship to the amount of money, in cash or trade terms, it receives from EEC membership.

Last week M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, said Britain was the only EEC member state yet to join the Community. He was quite right in that Britain does not want to be a member of the kind of Community where farmers do well at the expense of everyone else, and at the expense of good relations with the United States and the developing world.

The EEC has a tiny budget equivalent to no more than 2 per cent of the total domestic budget of all the member states. That is enough money to run a city of about three million people and the funds are administered with a staff of no more than are employed by Lambeth Council, a borough of London. With these limited resources a Community has been created with a meaning to the outside world, which is far more important than member states themselves seem to place on it at the moment.

Business news, page 15

Ambush kills 13 soldiers in Sri Lanka

By Donovan Molnarich, Colombo

An army officer and 12 soldiers died and two soldiers were seriously injured early yesterday when their vehicle was wrecked by an explosion near Jaffna in north Sri Lanka.

Two of the soldiers were killed instantly while the other 11 fell to rifle fire and bombs thrown at them as they got off the vehicle to take counter-attack.

The soldiers fired back and bloodstains behind a wall from which the attack was made indicated that some of the terrorists may have been killed or injured.

The Government said some of the terrorists were wearing army uniform. Investigations revealed that the explosion was set off by a device about 50 yards away. The device is presumed to have been stolen from a government cement factory.

Hassan to see Thatcher as Rock prospects dim

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Joshua Hassan, Gibraltar's Chief Minister, will have more talks at Downing Street tomorrow with Mrs Thatcher, amid concern over the prospects for the colony.

The most immediate issue is British support for the Rock's troubled economy, particularly its naval dockyard, where 1,000 workers are due to lose their jobs in December.

Sir Joshua and his Government have to decide whether to convert the yard into a commercial enterprise. Britain has pledged £28m to help the transformation.

Discussions continued in the Colony last week with Mr Ian Stewart, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, and tomorrow's Downing Street talks reflect the urgency of the problem.

It has to be seen against the background of recent exchanges between Britain and Spain over the future of the Colony. Señor

Fernando Morán, Spain's Foreign Minister, recently referred to a new formula and there has been speculation that he wants to redraft the 1980 Lisbon agreement, under which Spain promised to reopen the frontier with Gibraltar in return for talks with Britain.

He has described the agreement, which has still to be fully implemented, as imperfect and unequal and reacted angrily to a recent claim by Mrs Thatcher that Spain could hardly be admitted to the European Community while border restrictions remained.

Gibraltar claims it is losing up to £100,000 a week because many people cross to Spain to shop and dine, while Spanish customs duties inhibit Spaniards from making similar trips to the Rock.

With the dockyard closure, this represents a double blow to the economy.



Back on board: The Greenpeace protesters back in their ship Rainbow Warrior after being held by the Russians. From left, Jim Henry, Chris Cook, Ron Precious, Nancy Foote, David Rinehart, Pat Derron and Barbara Higgins.

Greenpeace seven back in Alaska

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

The seven Greenpeace activists held by the Russians for five days were back in Alaska yesterday after their most dramatic and best publicized protest against whaling.

A cheering crowd greeted them when they came ashore at the port of Nome. The protesters, two of them women, were jubilant. They and their Greenpeace colleagues were even more pleased to hear from Britain that the International Whaling Commission, meeting in Brighton, had cut commercial hunting quotas by 18 per cent.

Mr John Fritzel, director of Greenpeace, said: "We will go on campaigning until there is nothing to campaign against."

The commission, to which 40 countries belong, voted last year to end all commercial whaling by 1986. But it has no power of enforcement and the three main whaling nations - Japan, Russia and Norway - have objected to the ban.

Greenpeace had promised a confrontation at sea with the Russians, but last week's publicity coup, timed to coincide with the Brighton meeting, was beyond their expectations.

The group had landed at a Siberian whaling station to draw attention to the use of whale meat to feed minks.

Way clear for progress in Peking

From David Bonavia, Hong Kong

Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hong Kong, has arrived in Peking for further talks on the future of the colony. He was accompanied by Mr Robin MacLaren, his political adviser, and the two men will return to Hong Kong on Wednesday.

Chinese leaders evidently believe the talks are likely to make more progress now that they are satisfied Britain will not take an adamant stand on the validity of the nineteenth-century treaties ceding Hong Kong to Britain.

They have also established that Hong Kong itself is not represented officially at the talks, as Sir Edward is regarded

merely as a member of the British negotiating team headed by Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador to Peking.

Sir Percy yesterday told correspondents in Peking: "We're looking forward to a really busy and useful two days."

Public opinion in Hong Kong has calmed down somewhat after the alarm caused by the disagreement over Sir Edward's status. Most people here have confidence that he will put Hong Kong's case ably, though Peking is extremely hostile to the argument that care should be taken to avoid disturbing the stability of Hong Kong.

It officially considers, quite unjustifiably, that most Hong-

kong people are receptive to the idea of being reabsorbed by China.

Today's confirmation that China will go ahead with the construction of a nuclear power plant near the Hong Kong border is seen as a good sign, since Hong Kong will be expected to pay for extra power supplies with hard currency, possibly well beyond the 1997 date for resumption of Chinese sovereignty.

There is pessimism, however, about the future of the Hong Kong dollar, which has fallen to 7.2 to the United States dollar and is widely expected to decline further, though gradually. This instantly raises the cost of living.

France firm favourites in bridge championship

From Keith Stanley, Wiesbaden

In the Open European bridge championship in Wiesbaden, France are now firm favourites to win the title after playing 12 matches without defeat.

The holders, Poland, continue to challenge, as do Germany, the host nation, and Belgium, but France have the easier programme in the second half of the competition.

Britain continued their improved form in round 10, giving the top two French pairs their closest match to date. France

finally won by three IMPs, the minimum margin, for 11-9.

In round one of the women's championship, Britain, the favourites to retain their title, beat Finland 18-2.

Italy, thought likely to be the main danger to Britain, lost 4-16 to the Netherlands, the most tipped team of the outsiders.

Results round 10: Australia 20, Romania minus 3, Italy 10, Turkey 10, Luxembourg 1, Lebanon 19, France 11, Britain 9, Denmark 10, Switzerland 10, Yugoslavia 0, Hungary 20, Ireland 20, Finland minus 1, Iceland 9, Belgium 11, Poland 6, Norway 14, Spain minus 3, Sweden 20, Portugal

14, Israel 6, Germany 14, Netherlands 5.

Results round 11: Romania 9, Italy 11, Norway 9, Portugal 11, Belgium 20, Spain 11, Finland 10, Poland 10, Hungary 20, Iceland 0, Netherlands 11, Ireland 9, Switzerland 12, Yugoslavia 8, Lebanon 15, Denmark 3, Turkey 4, France 16, Austria 11, Luxembourg 3, Sweden 20, Israel 0, Britain 6, Germany 12.

Results round 12: Luxembourg 4, Romania 16, France 10, Italy 10, Denmark 17, Austria 3, Yugoslavia 15, Lebanon 3, Ireland 7, Britain 13, Iceland 2, Switzerland 18, Poland 1, Netherlands 19, Spain 0, Hungary 19, Portugal 8, Finland 12, Israel 12, Belgium 2, Sweden 10, Norway 10, Germany 1, Turkey 19.

Torrential rains in Japan claim 120 lives

Tokyo (Reuters) - More than 120 people were dead or missing yesterday in landslides and flooding triggered by torrential rain in western Japan. Police said 15 bodies had been recovered by rescuers searching through the wreckage of mud-covered houses, bringing the death toll to 64, with 54 others still missing. More than 2,000 troops and policemen were mobilized in Shimane prefecture, the hardest hit area on the Japan Sea coast.

In China, Jiangsu province has reported continuing rain and floods but there was no more news from other storm-threatened areas as Peking, by contrast, sweltered in a heat-wave, with water rationing for industry and a cut in work hours due to the heat.

US Navy saves 262 boat people

Bangkok - An American naval vessel landed 262 Vietnamese refugees in Thailand after rescuing them from two boats in the South China Sea. The United States Navy is now looking for a third boat carrying 80 refugees believed still to be in the Gulf of Thailand (Neil Kelly writes).

The first boat left Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) on July 14 with 173 refugees and the second sailed from Rach Gia province on July 18 with 89 refugees. All those rescued will be settled in the United States.

Record freeze

Moscow (Reuters) - Soviet polar researchers registered a record-low temperature of minus 89.2C (-129F) at a research station in the Antarctic last Thursday. Tass reported yesterday.

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THE ARTS

The London Symphony Orchestra may have fallen short of expectation in the City's grandest new concert hall, but it is still fighting for greater control there while its contemporaries look on in disquiet. Bryan Appleyard reports

Battle of the Barbican



Kubelik: "saved the LSO"

Pollini: flat refusal



Barbican and the London Symphony Orchestra are now in the midst of negotiations about the future of their partnership. The talks have been tense and at times acrimonious, and they are being watched nervously by the other major independent London orchestras and the Arts Council. If the talks fail to reach agreement, the LSO's music industry in London will face a radical upheaval, yet if it succeeds the consequences may be just as profound.

The talks are taking place because the LSO's initial agreement with the Barbican, made in 1974, is running out in December 1984. In the interim, the LSO has been running at a loss of £500,000 per season, and the Barbican has been forced to subsidise its losses. The LSO's negotiating position is weak, and it needs greater freedom in its financial decisions and in its programming. Its opening stance was to demand a 50 per cent increase in its fee for the next season, but this has been rejected. The Barbican's position is strong, and it is against the LSO's demands. Raymond Gubbay, who runs the Barbican, promotes highly

popular programmes using either existing orchestras or his own. His 90 per cent attendance figures have been a constant source of embarrassment to the LSO, which has been running at a loss of £500,000 per season. The rest of the deal would involve the LSO withdrawing from the Barbican and the City, thus identifying itself definitively as the orchestra of the Barbican and the City.

The strength of the LSO's position is that it is in place at the Barbican and any change would involve a loss of face for the centre. It is also

backed by the Arts Council. The Council is keen to preserve the relationship, as it is seen as a potentially successful, but it is less keen to maintain its position as the subsidiser of the LSO. It is therefore backing the LSO's drive for exclusivity and for some control of other dates in the hall. In addition, of course, the involvement of the City in financing the LSO at the Barbican brings in a new subsidising body, and that is much to the taste of the Council.

But the orchestra's position is weakened by its poor performance at the box-office. Attendances have

been disappointing and critical responses largely negative. Feeling inside the Barbican is that the attendance figures are primarily due to a lacklustre list of conductors and poor programming which has involved far too many repeats. Until recently they would have added that the orchestra was not up to scratch in any case. However, the recent series conducted by Rafael Kubelik has shown the orchestra can come up with the goods. In the words of one observer, "Kubelik saved the LSO".

But, Kubelik apart, the LSO picture has been looking increasingly grim. It evidently no longer enjoys

the international pre-eminence of 10 years ago. Furthermore its move to the Barbican has come at a time when all the revenue sources of the London orchestras have been shrinking. Recording sessions are down, ticket sales are depressed and the competition for film and popular work has left them with the barest of profit margins. The LSO's deficit is now running at £250,000, which represents the worst financial position of any of the London orchestras.

Within the orchestra there is some resistance to the closer links with the Barbican - the Festival Hall is perceived as easily the most eminent

international venue. Meanwhile the constant struggle to improve the Barbican's acoustics has provided a string of stories suggesting various stars will have nothing to do with the place. Claudio Abbado, the LSO's principal conductor, has expressed reservations, while the pianist Maurizio Pollini has flatly refused to play there. Kubelik's success and endorsement of the acoustics has at least helped to switch the balance of that particular debate.

At the moment talks are proceeding warily. The Barbican will not give the LSO exclusive use of the hall and the veto on other concerts,

but it has so far been wearing kid gloves in its handling of the situation. Its two most radical options are either to bring in another resident orchestra or to throw the hall open completely. Yet it wants agreement with the LSO because it is believed the orchestra can be successful. For the time being the two sides are so far apart that there is a real danger of a complete breakdown. If that happens the debate will become one between the Arts Council and the City, with both claiming the other side is failing to face up to its responsibilities.

Meanwhile the other orchestras are watching with mounting alarm. The LSO's throw out on the streets would destabilise their markets, as would the closure of the Barbican to their concerts and more City patronage of the LSO. They also have to live with the uncertainties over the Royal Festival Hall since the Greater London Council decided to take a more aggressive stance on its management.

Indeed this final element may prove to be decisive. With the RFL weakened by poor attendances and the whim of local government politics, the Barbican management may take the view that now is the time to bid for supremacy. The Barbican as a whole is, after all, just beginning to prove that it can be reasonably successful. After two decades of defending its right to exist at all it could now find itself in a position to start dictating terms.

Concerts

The big band sound

BCSO/Pritchard
Albert Hall/Radio 3/BC2

John Pritchard took on the unlikely role of grand bandmaster for the second half of this year's Proms. He conducted a massed band of 100 players, a feat of thirty-odd clarinets to add a massive wind band in the services of Berlioz's *Grande symphonie funebre et triomphale*. The result seemed more appropriate to the Albert Hall, but that was only a fiction on the outdoor ethos of this patriotic piece; we should rely all have processed in triumph round Hyde Park.

We were given the whole gamut of work, complete with a string quartet and choral formations which Berlioz had later, and starring a youthful swinging pillar of the pavilion choir, which received a special accolade from the arena and a rapturous encore of its own. This is surely more substance in Berlioz's funeral music than in his triumphs, in the Prom atmosphere it is the crashing obvious march of rejoicing with its onyx swing in the coda into

A major that inspired Pritchard to his liveliest efforts. Christopher Mowat's splendid trombone solo in the slow movement was gloriously sentimental.

The huge wind band was also trundled into service for Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, a justly forgotten trifle he arranged for himself by Weber for that composer's burial in Dresden. Little more than the popular arrangements of the previous century writ large, but nobly done.

This spectacle would all have made great television, but television, with its usual presence, had departed after the first half, which was a far less sensational affair. Pritchard conducted Beethoven's Mass in C, inflating its forces with a vast choir but taking a gentle, serene view of the music; the result was fuzzy, though the figures had considerable power. Ileana Cotribas, Kathleen Kuhlmann, Robert Tear and Gwynne Howell floated nicely through the warm textures.

Juggling my casts of Glyndebourne's *Tristan*, reviewed last week, I misattributed the part of Isolde to last year's singer, this season it is sung by Anne Mason. My apologies.

Nicholas Kenyon

Philharmonia/ Matacic

Albert Hall/Radio 3

His conducting career began more than sixty years ago, but Sunday night marked the centenary of the birth of the composer of *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*, who was claimed with the warmth of a father at these concerts to be of particular distinction. It was after a searching yet not ponderous account of the seldom-heard *Symphony No 3* by Bruckner, a composer with whom Matacic has been closely associated in the past.

He performed it in Bruckner's revised version of 1878, now usually regarded as the best we can get to the composer's definitive intentions. Although this D minor symphony may be thought less satisfactory in its craftsmanship than those which followed it, it is a work of grace and wit as much as any. The conductor took a relatively restrained view of the more monumental aspects, while shaping the lyrical passages with particular delight.

From the outset his concern was dynamics took account of the contrast in the often subtle phrasing he drew from the Philharmonia players, the

strings no less than the wind instruments. Ravishing pianissimo playing was a notable feature, and in the slow movement a lyrical intensity of feeling was generated from within, as it were. A dancelike spirit more Bohemian than Wagnerian characterized the scherzo and finale.

The concert began with Cecile Cousse as a somewhat brittle soloist in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 1. The first movement looked over its shoulder at the fast-disappearing eighteenth century in its stylistic formality, as if a fortepiano might have better suited her musical intentions, but that could never have accommodated the large-scale, romantically extended cadenza of unidentified provenance which she played. Could it have been Saint-Saens?

During the concerto's slow movement the keyboard was not so much contrasted with the woodwind as an extension of the orchestral writing. The pianistic style became increasingly stilted in the finale, where a choppy rhythmic accents were inappreciable in a manner that was agreeably diverting without, as sometimes happens, unduly forcing the music's pace and character.

Noel Goodwin

SO/Daras Barbican

Life is tough at the top, especially if you happen to be only 14. To follow his much-publicized, much-discussed debut with the London Philharmonia earlier this year, the young Greek prodigy Dimitris Siousis returned in a long and exhausting programme of two concertos with the London Symphony Orchestra at the Barbican, and the result can hardly have turned out as well as he or his promoters had hoped.

It would be difficult to think of a more inappropriate work for a teenager to choose than Beethoven's Third Concerto, which requires a quality of awareness that the young Siousis strove for but could never find. And it would be difficult to think of a work for a teenager to choose to display his brilliant technical prowess which would be more likely to reduce his audience to frenzies of enraptured boredom than the *Symphony No 3* by Beethoven. Somewhere in the yawning gap between the sublime and the ridiculous musical content of these two pieces, it was possible

to observe a very interesting pianist at work. Siousis's facility is fantastic, but he looks surprisingly awkward, as if no one has ever shown him how to sit or how to walk. His hands can encompass anything, but the rigid placement of his shoulders and arms imposes a restriction on his movement which makes his playing look more than a little tortuous.

There is little relaxation in the sound either the phrases in the Beethoven were stitched together painfully, though as soon as the music took off into extrovert passages he found more room. In the sense of purpose, in the sense of the most tremendous barrage of pounding octaves, flailing arpeggios and running scales while the orchestra performed acts of unimaginable banality with a Greek folk tune.

In none of this was the young prodigy helped by his compatriot Yannis Daras, who flopped through the Beethoven without coordinating any of the crucial moments, and then stood in front of the LSO while they played a droopy, languid account of Elgar's *Enigma Variations*.

Nicholas Kenyon

Television

Well remembered and splendidly acted

Now and Then, LWT's seven-part series, has the benefit of a good idea and two comic craftsmen. John Emswiler and Bob Larbey, who have previously demonstrated in *Please Sir* and *The Good Life* that they can do one close enough to perfection for good humour to give them the benefit of any doubts. Though starters can be deceptive in television series, this one promises to be genuine throughout.

The "now" sees the contemporary Elton family contemplating a move from their South London home, with father pulling against the sentimental ties of boyhood. It was there that he sustained the adventure of his sister, learnt that gas masks could be fun and that there was no better laboratory than an air-raid shelter for observing the vulnerability of the adult species. Maybe that was where we began to die.

This episode lingered only shortly in the now before plunging into the nostalgia of

the then: a cheek-by-jowl world pressed even closer by war, a world of hectic family get-togethers and sticky Sunday teas after which the light ale flowed and television not yet having made initiative superfluous, everyone got up and did a turn to keep Monday morning at bay.

It was well remembered and splendidly acted. The young may gaze on their elders with amazement as well as amusement but their turn will come, and those who remember the feel of a ration book may reflect that they may not have had the worst of it. Derrick Goodwin was the producer-director.

On Saturday Bernard Levin concluded his BBC2 series by interviewing Henry Moore, who this week will be 85 and whose longevity, apart from his massive achievements, makes him a difficult man to walk around in half an hour. He was grateful, he said, that he had enough talent to go on trying to do something that had a purpose, which made life significant. "If somebody has that purpose,

they are among the luckiest people in the world".

He was lucky that he lived to find that he had it. He recalled the First World War, how his unit had gone up to Cambrai 400 strong and how only 52 returned. He was demobilised early, intending to teach, but found his way to Leeds School of Art on an army grant. Perceptively, they founded a school of sculpture just for him.

He remembered the help he had from Epstein, the early days in London when he haunted the National Gallery and the British Museum, recalled the influence of Brancusi and celebrated the joy of wedding a vision of truth to material.

Artists he exhorted to ignore disapproval. He had liked renown but would have gone on just the same without it. He continued to work. Sculptors, he said, must like physical action and remarked that Michelangelo worked harder than any coal-miner. One concluded that Moore, too, must have moved a few quarries and been suited by it.

Had time allowed and Mr Levin not ambled rather, one would have liked to have heard a little more about his personal philosophy, about why he declined a knighthood, about his view of the non-art world.

Saturday also saw the beginning of the multi-national production of Graham Greene's *Heart of the Matter* on Channel 4, scripted by Gerald Savory in collaboration with Marco Lenzi, who also directed, with Jack Hedley as the God-bounded Scobie and Erica Rogers as his limpid, literary wife Louise.

At this pace it seems a tall order to fit into four parts but the first episode certainly established the West African colonial atmosphere of gin, sweat and the prickly heat of hell-fire in the office. It should be worth staying with. It will be interesting to see whether Jack Hedley, much in control in this early round, has the necessary angst for a fight to the finish with the Almighty.

Dennis Hackett

Galleries G. B. Piazzetta Venice

The three-hundredth anniversary of the birth of one of Venice's most original painters, Giambattista Piazzetta (1683-1754), is being marked by an exhibition at the Palazzo Vendramin-Capello, until September 25. Among the finest of Venetian palaces, it is rarely seen except by gamblers, since it is used as the winter casino, and the notion of using it during the summer for art exhibitions is the brainchild of the city's enterprising young *Assessore alla cultura*, Domenico Crivellari, one of whose objects in so doing is to spread the tourist area, which tends inevitably to be concentrated in and around the Piazza San Marco. So far he has not succeeded, with the result that the exhibition is virtually deserted, which does mean that it can be visited in comfort, however.

It has to be admitted that, although it contains some marvellous things, it does not really work as an exhibition, partly because it occupies the ground and second floors, creating an uneasy sense of dislocation in the visitor, but also because so many crucial pictures are absent, notably the two great pastoral scenes painted for Marshal Schulenburg and now divided between Cologne and Chicago. The location too proves somewhat intractable, although Daniela Ferretti's elegant, high-tech metallic framework provides a versatile and unobtrusive background, particularly in the ground floor *portico*, where she has chosen a pale cream lightweight fabric which has been hung pleated.

Here are displayed the master's earliest works, in the



Essential light relief in Capella's Fortitude

company of others by his contemporaries, including G. B. Tiepolo's *Sacrifice of Isaac* from the Church of the Ospedale, and by his teachers, the first of whom was Antonio Molinari, a large, somewhat conventional altarpiece by whom has been brought from the Church of San Moisè. Much more influential on his development was a sojourn in Bologna, where he came into contact with Giuseppe Maria Crespi and almost certainly became his pupil. Crespi's monumental *Aeneas*, the *Sybil* and *Charon*, painted

about 1697 for Prince Eugene of Savoy and now in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, was clearly in Piazzetta's mind when he was making his contribution to a series of Apostles commissioned for the Church of San Stae. This *Martyrdom of St James* is displayed at the entrance to the main exhibition area, on the second floor, together with four others from the set by Sebastiano Ricci, Pellegrini, Pittoni and G. B. Tiepolo.

Here, in a series of high rooms with beamed ceilings and amazing Mannerist chimney-pieces, the most important pictures compete with vast Murano chandeliers and walls hung with modern damask in a wide range of very nasty colours. The designer's own feeling for colour has also momentarily deserted her, so that one of the most moving pictures in Venice, Piazzetta's altarpiece from the Gesuati Church, is hung against a green the colour of damp moss, thus completely killing its wonderfully cool tonality of black, white and grey, where in Michael Levey's words (*Painting in XVIII Century Venice*, 1959), "he makes more effective contrast than would another painter with a whole rainbow of colours".

It is also in much better condition than most of Piazzetta's earlier works, in which he used a red bolus ground which had taken its revenge on the paint surface, virtually burning it away from beneath. This is also true of the *Alexander* contemplating the body of Darius (Ca. 1720) and the

Mucius Scaevola from Palazzo Barbato (not exhibited), and has been used as an argument (by George Knox) for a dating of both pictures early in the painter's career rather than during the 1740s, as proposed by most other scholars. In fact, documents from the De Lazara Pisani archive, now in course of publication, record payments to the artist for the *Alexander* in 1746.

Indeed, in another late work, the *Beholding of St John the Baptist* from Padua, the familiar red ground reappears, although in this case the deterioration is minimal. This powerful and unconventional composition, showing the executioner (and, intriguingly, a self-portrait of the artist) rolling up his sleeve before accepting the proffered sword, while his ecstatically resigned victim gazes upward in silent prayer, is undoubtedly the revelation, even the justification, of this uneven show.

Of the "followers" who fill five rooms with generally feeble echoes of the master, only Francesco Capella (1711-84) emerges with any strong individuality. His appealingly mannered elegance is exemplified by the large ceiling canvas from the Palazzo Albeni Bonini in Bergamo in which *Fortitude* seems about to leap from the clouds to wreak revenge on those below. The putt wearing nothing but a putti helmet supply a delightful touch of absurdity to one of the jolliest pictures in an exhibition inevitably somewhat lacking in light relief.

Jeffery Daniels

Dance

The Dream Covent Garden

Miss Julie
Coliseum

On Saturday Rudolf Nureyev completed his eighth annual festival at the Coliseum and the Royal Ballet reached the halfway mark in its brief summer season. At Covent Garden there were two important debuts in *The Dream*, Michael Coleman, who has been turning increasingly to the clowns' roles in the repertoire, played Bottom, and as usual he found some new touches, notably the way he banged his ass's head against a tree to clear his sight or mind of an illusion when Titania first made eyes at him.

I liked, too, the way he made a virtue of necessity by introducing a new, skittish walk between passages of pointed work, presumably because he is less strong at that (usually woman's) technique than the role's originator, Alexander Grant. Even more welcome was a lack of innovation at some moments: he clearly remembers the seriousness Grant found for his awakening, and did not spoil it with irrelevant jokes.

The other debut was that of Simon Rice, one of last year's new recruits, as Puck. Although a bigger jump would be helpful at times, he is neat, speedy, personable and amusing; better than many recent interpretations, but Stephen Sherif, who took the part earlier in the week, was better still, dancing with an explosive vivacity and high humour.

It is a relief this season to have a younger cast of lovers, but they are not yet making the most of their roles. Saturday's Titania, Jennifer Penney, danced

as beautifully though with not much sense of character; Wayne Eagling as Oberon provides both a strong, sharp authority and an incisive grasp of the solos.

The Dream is long for a one-act ballet (52 minutes), but everything in it is relevant so it does not feel too long. *Dances of Albi*, in the same programme, is seven minutes shorter but seems interminable. That is because it is so boring. It is a reasonably sufficient ballet in the first half, to Britten's *Serenade* for tenor, horn and strings. Glen Tetley insists on running straight into the *Sinfonia da requiem* and compounds that musical barbarism by having nothing fresh to say, only repeating bits of his favourite choreographic devices. Committed performances by Lesley Collier, Stephen Jeffries and their colleagues cannot make it look other than self-indulgent excess.

Their final performances at the Coliseum found Nureyev and Ballet Theatre Français in fine form. One of Nureyev's most attractive qualities is that he never freewheels, but always pushes his remarkable gifts to their limits. On Saturday one of the company's principals, Alexandra Wells, took the title part in *Miss Julie*. Even more than her unusually old-fashioned Victorian mien in *Spectre de la rose*, this showed a marked individual talent.

The changes of mood became vivid: spitefulness, envy, reluctant lust, gloating pride and a fearful hope even in her sham were the mainstays of a bold characterization. Nureyev's Jean, a man wholly on the make, and Francoise Dubuc's subtle, entirely human Kristin both became better for having this performance to play against.

John Percival

Rock

Dire Straits Hammersmith Odeon

Few rock groups depend as heavily for success on an intimate engagement with the emotions of the listener as Dire Straits, so it is a particular pleasure that they have managed, as a part of their rise to enormous international celebrity, to scale up their music to fit the huge arenas in which they now have to perform. Last Christmas they conquered the aircraft-hanger ambience and doggy acoustical response of Wembley Arena; on Saturday evening they made Hammersmith Odeon feel like the Marquee.

This is one of the measures of their maturity. Four years ago, at the time their second album was released, the Odeon was too big for them; the original quartet contorted itself into clichéd and completely unsuitable rock-star postures in order to seem larger than life. Now, after a couple of personnel changes and with the vital addition of two keyboard players, they are able to relax. Superbly lighting, devised by Chas Hetherington with more than a nod (in the pin-spots and the subdued washes) to the Springsteen concerts of 1981, and amplification which combines power with absolute clarity provide a drama which allows the musicians to be themselves.

They began with "Once Upon a Time in the West", easing into the concert with an extended arrangement featuring beautifully varied vamps and humorous kick-beats signalled by Mark Knopfler, their leader, singer, guitarist and songwriter. In all the years of watching guitarists, from Hank B. Marvin

to James Blood Ulmer, I have never seen anyone more at home with the instrument than Knopfler. His secrets are his melodic sense, which lifts every phrase, and his intuitively graceful feeling for space. The most fluently romantic of players, he sets his instrumental lyricism against a flat, rough-hewn voice, the tension arising from the subconscious understanding that the guitar expresses emotional nuances beyond the voice's range.

Although Knopfler still wears light-hearted throw-aways, such as "Twisting by the Pool" and "Industrial Disease", his speciality is now the melodramatic piece, inspired by Ennio Morricone's soundtracks and by Roy Bittan's keyboard work with the E Street Band. "Tunnel of Love" and "Romeo and Juliet" are the best balanced of these; the former ended with the swooning payout so cleverly used in the juke-box sequence of *An Officer and a Gentleman*; the latter moved, via a stunning synthesizer link, into a lovely reading of "Love Over Gold".

"The Sultans of Swing" was turned into a blazing guitar feature, while Portobello Belle, with the addition of Mel Collins on alto saxophone, was described by Knopfler as "Irish reggae", but bore a strong resemblance to the "Caledonia soul" of Van Morrison's recent music. "Telegraph Road" were the most theatrically staged but, perhaps because of their subject matter, did not quite touch the heart so affectingly. As the house lights came up and the road crew began to dismantle the equipment, the band played us home with Knopfler's music for *Local Hero*: a neat touch.

Richard Williams

See Front Page

Are You A Bore?

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

No stamp required in U.K.

Jagger: a butterfly reaches 40

By Pete Townshend

Tomorrow Mick Jagger, singer of the Rolling Stones, will be 40 years old. Apart from the fact that 40 is a nice round number, it also signifies the twentieth year of the Stones' career. Looking for a maxim suitable to open an article in which I will try hard to find some reason why these events should be of interest, I came across a Proverb (22:6) in the May issue of *Awake*: "Train a boy according to the way for him; even when he grows old he will not turn aside from it."

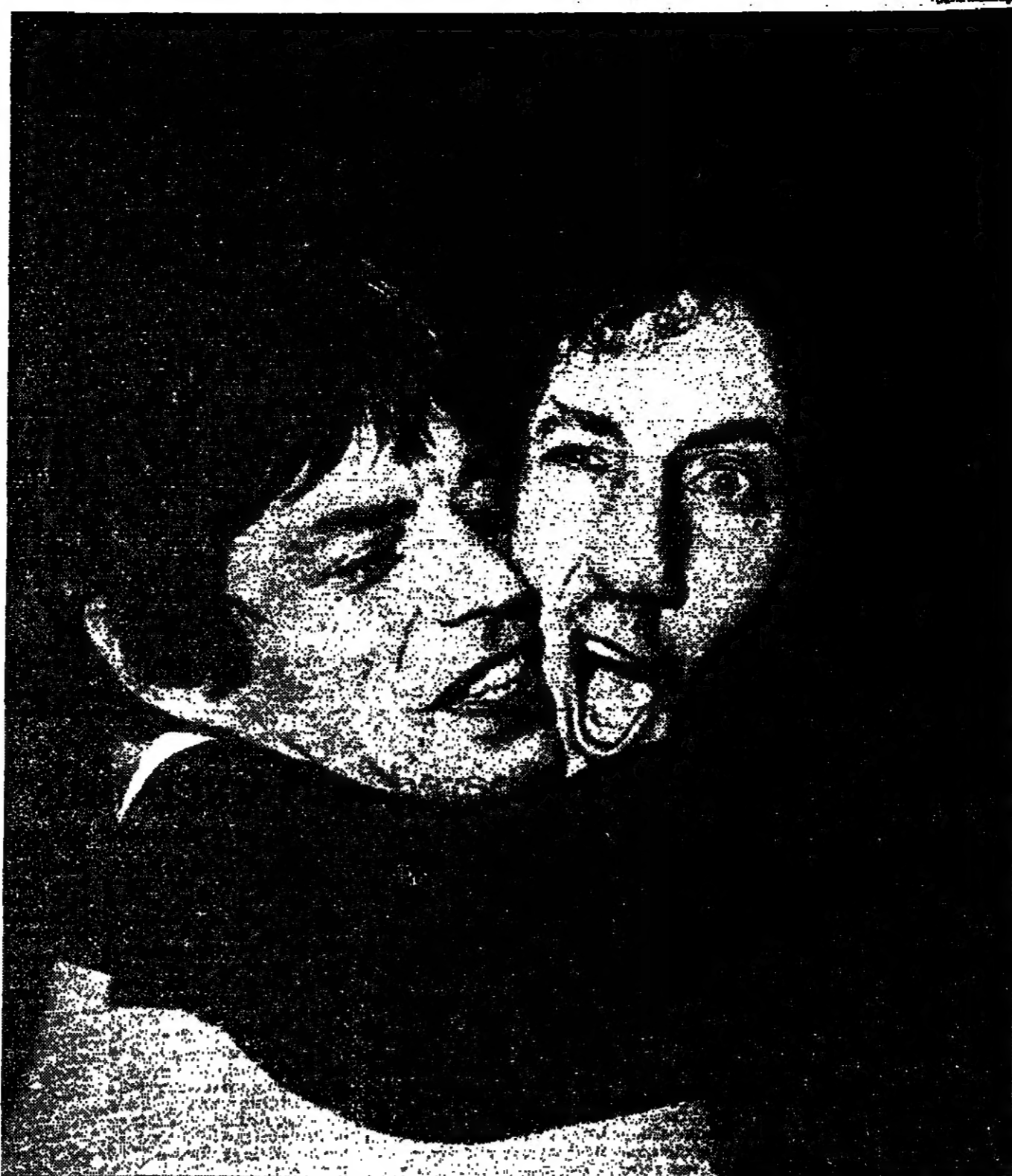
The reason *The Times* is an appropriate place for me to be airing my thoughts at this telling moment in rock history is that on June 30, 1967, my group, The Who, took an advertisement in the *Evening Standard* to protest against the savage sentences meted out to Mick Jagger and Keith Richards for possession of drugs. We really thought we were going out on a limb, attracting the attention of the police and the press, and probably opening ourselves up for similar busts.

On the following day, however, *The Times* went one better. The Editor himself, William Rees-Mogg, wrote a leading article - now legendary in rock music circles - titled "Who Breaks A Butterfly On A Wheel?" Its demands that Jagger should be treated like any other young man, and that tolerance and equity should be a part of our traditional values of justice, were vital. I am pretty sure that without Jagger

and Richards would have stayed in jail. It's sad to say that with or without the editorial (or the Rolling Stones), drug abuse would still be a problem among young people today.

The importance of our celebrities' behaviour in private and public, and the responsibilities involved in reporting that behaviour, is something I want to try to get to grips with here, having just waded through five or six biographies of debatable value. Jagger has lived for a long time at the spearhead of the rock business, examined and vilified, coveted and glorified. He has been paid well, and can certainly exercise power within society and among his friends. His charisma seems to have effected a peculiar unanimity of approach among his biographers: they have always concentrated on his wilder, glamorous attributes, even though his fortieth birthday sees him more mature, less mysterious, more affable and less self-indulgent. Because Jagger is a rock star we are a little surprised by the idea that he might slow down and round out like everyone else in the world at middle age, but remember the proverb... there is no one to whom it can more perfectly be applied than Jagger.

Back, then, to the biographies and press clippings: there must be something there that explains why it is so significant that Mick Jagger is 40 years old.



Jagger (left) with Townshend: can rock stars still act like adolescents when they are suffering from mid-life crises?

but without abusing my relationship with Jagger.

The relationships between rock stars are peculiar. Jagger and David Bowie are two of the few people in the mainstream of rock to whom I can talk in the knowledge that they understand precisely what I mean when I talk about pressure, creative problems or irritations with the press. I am anxious, therefore, not to alienate Jagger. Nevertheless, there are a few secrets about him that I can make known here. Forget the Mars bars and the French whores (mentioned as "rumours" in every biography and duly repeated here); what about all the insignificant but still really irritating habits he has? Like picking at the edges of Sellotape rolls until they just will not work? Or waiting until the chocolate digestives are totally melted before peeling one off, leaving the rest of the packet sodden? Or running his fingers around the tops of champagne glasses and making them ring piercingly? He is also a terrible name-dropper. Once on Concorde he pointed out to me that Britt Ekland was travelling a few rows ahead without make-up. Jagger does have hundreds of small, worrying faults like these, but none of the incredibly beautiful women that fill his life seems to care.

Another fact, emphasized constantly in the biographies, that I feel I have to dive-bomb is the way Jagger and, later, Keith Richards have been prepared to sacrifice anyone around them for success and control of the band. Aspects of this contention could be true: when Brian Jones was being edged out of the band, I remember how much he seemed to want my friendship he was insecure and lonely. But in order to get Jagger's and Richards' apparent brutality into scale, I must repeat a story about my form master at grammar school.

In the last term (1960) I had taken to wearing my navy-blue blazer adorned with breakfast cereal droppings and egg yolk. The headmaster had asked me to take a little more pride in my appearance. "For heaven's sake, Townsend, couldn't you just wipe a damp cloth over it every now and then? You look like you've been dropped into a dustbin." My form master felt there was more to my lack of pride than met the eye. He took me aside one day. "Townsend," he said meaningfully, "I know why you leave egg stains on your jacket, milk dribbles in the lap of your grey flannels and tea stains on your shirt. Shall I tell you why you do it?" He asked me in such a way that I had no choice but to request illumination. So I asked, "Yes, sir. Please do." "Because, Townsend, it's your perverted way of saying to the world, 'Look at me - I'm dangerous!'" I was confused. "Dangerous, sir? Having egg yolk on my blazer?" "Yes, Townsend, you believe it makes you look dangerous."

I really did not understand what he was saying, believing instead that he was being deeply ironic. The penny dropped when I told a friend of Edwardian inclinations about it, and he said that the master had told him the same thing - in his case, that he dressed like a Teddy Boy because it made him look dangerous. In fact he had taken every single boy in the class aside during that last term and told them that they looked the way they did because they wanted to appear dangerous - even those who were very, very neat and conventional. We were all very impressed with our master's

perspicacity. We all were, of course, quite dangerous-looking, we knew that. Practically the whole of the Stones' image is rooted in this rather boyish philosophy: that people will believe you are what you believe you appear to be. Some people close to the Stones say that Keith Richards is genuinely as he appears to be: bearing in mind some of the terrifying stories I could tell about him, that is a possibility. But is Mick Jagger really the ruthless, conniving, duplicitous, scheming, evil-touched, money-greedy, sex-mad, cowardly, vain, power-hungry swine his biographers and the newspaper hounds have made him out to be?

Do people who claim to know Jagger talk about him and expand on all these awful ideas about him because they really don't feel their opinions or their treachery matter to him? Does no one feel close enough to him to keep his mouth shut? I, for example, have spilled all about Jagger's disgusting habit of name-dropping at every opportunity - and there is a strong possibility that I am a very important friend to him. I don't really think so; but it's possible. People like Jagger need people like me: I may be a gossiping, back-biting sycophant, but at least I don't interfere with the other sycophants. The truly sycophantic are no really dangerous. The dangerous ones are those 'close friends' who become obsessed to protect their famous buddies from the sycophants they see all around. They see their



In most respects, he beat me to it. But I have stopped living for rock before he has

famous friends being exploited, given drugs and being seduced by beautiful women who really only want money. So, with only their famous compatriot's goodwill in mind, they intercede, they advise and warn. When their well-meant good advice is ignored, they scuttle off to the nearest newspaper and tell all; in particular, how their own compassionate care was wasted and unrequited.

So much for friends - but, incredibly, many journalists also feel they have a privileged relationship with Jagger. He is so courteous and gentlemanly that, even though he is well known for fielding any and every direct question he does not like, someone interviewing him will feel

they have set up a very real rapport and come close to the real man behind the image.

It is only the conceit of these pathetic individuals that prevents me from feeling totally sympathetic with them - after all, it is not so different believing oneself to be a close friend of Mick's when in fact one is kept hanging on purely because one has some value to him of which one is unaware. How can someone believe himself to be Mick's friend when choosing to make a living writing about him, buying his drugs, relieving his sexual desire, driving his car and answering his phone for him?

When you talk to someone at home, by the fire or in bed, you really do not imagine, even if you are Mick Jagger, that 10 years later you will see that person's rough idea of the way the conversation went, printed as though it was a verbatim transcription of a tape recording made at the time. Imagine the scene. You are Mick's girlfriend, one of the few he really cared for. You have just made love. Mick says to you, "I love you." You get out your pencil and scribble it down, just in case. I suppose everyone in the public eye goes through this. I regard it as humiliation, and because I know Mick it hurts me too. It hurts me especially because no one ever bothers to show any interest in what I said to my girlfriend after we made love 15 years ago. I have to spread my own malicious rumours about myself.

I only want to celebrate my friend's fortieth birthday, to rally one and all to do the same. To avoid judging either his complexion or his waistline, his future or his past, his genius or his despotism, I want to ask everyone to turn away from the biographies and their serializations written by friends cast aside, journalists in newspaper cuttings libraries and simple hacks on the make. Degas said that everyone has talent at 25 but the difficulty is having it at 50. Mick will still be beautiful when he is 50, still one of the original rock writers who discovered the new song form that embodied a width of human passion only before contained in poetry. His talent will be as strong at 50 as it is today at 40 because his ambition is not dependent on his youth, his song writing in the rock genre is not dependent on his own suffering and his drive to be popular and loved is not dependent on his personal insecurity.

I believe that rock music is art, especially because it attempts to share passion rather than demonstrate stances. Everyone has his own definition of art and mine is neatly contained in the song form that emerged in pop music during the early 1960s. At some point I would enjoy taking up another of your mornings justifying my claim, but despite the fact that I believe Mick Jagger to be a significant and genuinely inspired artist who often creates great work, the whole precept would probably bore Jagger himself, so I will desist.

He sees himself as an entertainer, thus a servant of sorts. And yet it still serves us well to remember, on the fortieth birthday of this successful man, that William Rees-Mogg in 1967 entreated us "to ensure that Mr Jagger is treated the same as anyone else, no better and no worse."

So I shall invite him down to the pub, buy him a pint, talk about how well he always does his job, and never mention the old days again.

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moreover...
Miles Kingston

Vive l'indifférence

Nobody remains indifferent to the music of Wagner, wrote Bernard Levin the other day; even if you don't love it, you find yourself hating it. I fell into a reverie when I read these words, as I often do at the beginning of an article on Wagner, and started doing something else: namely, reflecting on the number of times in my life I had been told that I would either hate or love, but not be indifferent to, something.

Among the things with such magical power of attraction or repulsion are: mushrooms, spinach, Victorian architecture, sailing, the novels of Henry Green, *The Gorm Show*, oysters, New York, Pernod, malt whisky, ballet, jazz, science fiction, the county of Dorset, the people of Wales, the ex-pupils of Winchester, the music of Stravinsky, Maltesers, the smell of chrysanthemums, crossword puzzles, the kind of people who play Rugby, Scottish country dancing, smoked salmon and Scrabble.

Reflecting on this list, I discovered that the "either you hate or love" theory is absolutely crackers. Almost everything on it is something I quite like. Or like sometimes but not others. Or like some of, but not all of. Even the three things I like most on the list - jazz, malt whisky and *The Gorm Show* - sometimes leave me quite cold.

Take oysters. I can remember distinctly the first time I ate an oyster. Ten years ago, when William Davis was editor of *Punch* and I was his underling, someone sent him a crate of oysters which, with typical generosity, he shared out among the staff who had not yet gone home. I was the only one left in the building - I had probably just arrived for work - and he brandished a dripping mollusc at me. "Like oysters?" he roared.

"I don't know. I've never had one." He goggled. It was rather like never having travelled first class on a plane.

"Well, have one. You'll either hate it or love it."

I had one. It was quite nice.

"Well?"

"It's... all right."

Fatal. When someone tells you it's a love-or-hate object, he's very hurt to be told it's all right, and nothing more. Jazz and Wagner lovers don't mind people hating jazz and Wagner; it's taking it or leaving it they can't stand. I imagine that God is infuriated by agnosticism more than anything else.

When it came to sailing, I was wiser. I got mixed up in a sailing crowd five years ago. Oh, you'll either hate it or love it, they told me. It nodded sagely. I knew that meant I'd quite like it. In fact, the truth about sailing, as I later found out, was that you love it; but not till afterwards, and I can still remember toasting around in a yacht one night near the end of a cross-Channel trip to Le Havre.

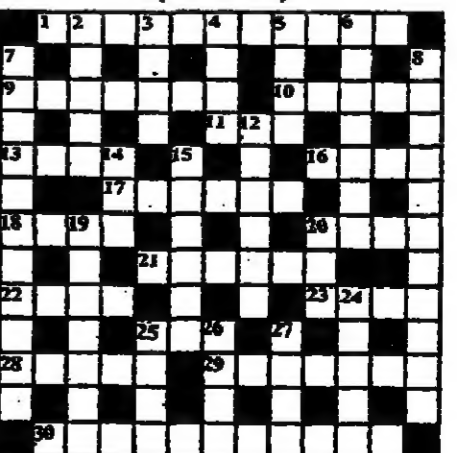
It was wet and cold and rough, and everyone had retired below except me and the captain. Brian. We took it in turns to watch the lights of Le Havre get no nearer. Big ships came past, ignoring us, waves came past ignoring us, the lights of Le Havre ignored us.

It took us five very long hours to beat through the combined indifference of the elements to moor in Le Havre at after 2 am, and the whole experience was dreadful. But before I went to sleep I said to myself: "In the morning, I'm going to think back and say that it was quite an enjoyable experience. I must remember that it was nothing of the kind."

I don't sail any more, and I don't miss it much, and I never did love or hate Wagner, and I don't miss that much either. The trouble with me is something that is unimaginable to the open-lover: I am left cold by the convention of classical singing. I find the kind of voice used in opera or lied highly artificial and unappealing, just as other people find nothing to enjoy in the saxophone, the cello, the electric guitar or brass bands. On the one occasion I was taken to hear part of *The Ring*, I sat transfixed by what George Solti was doing with the orchestra, but went to sleep every time I transferred my attention to the stage. I felt as distanced from what they were doing as I expect I would from a Japanese Noh play.

I am told that you either hate or love Japanese Noh plays. Well, I have been told so often that I will hate or love something that by now I can take it or leave it. The main thing to remember is to say that you either hate or love it. It's agnostics like me that people can't stand.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 110)



- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Disabled (11) | 2 Decorate (5) |
| 9 Ideal (7) | 3 Fall in drops (4) |
| 10 Horse cry (5) | 4 Tins (4) |
| 11 Undercover agent (3) | 5 Small horse (4) |
| 13 Sicilian volcano (4) | 6 Example (7) |
| 16 Ill-mannered person (4) | 7 Self-service store (7) |
| 17 Occult doctrine (6) | 8 Bad humour (5,6) |
| 18 Best of burden (4) | 12 Building support (6) |
| 20 Furry skin (4) | 14 Winning serve (3) |
| 21 Clergyman (6) | 15 Mentally slow (6) |
| 22 Ice expanse (4) | 16 Ancestral descent (7) |
| 23 Sullen (4) | 19 Dowd (3) |
| 25 Not him (3) | 24 Fribbing (3) |
| 28 Rub out (5) | 25 Great warmth (4) |
| 29 Herring-like fish (7) | 26 Pay Corps (1,1,1,1) |
| 30 Submarine bomb (5,6) | 27 Tableland (4) |

SOLUTION TO No 109
 ACROSS: 1 Crackle 5 Forum 8 A do 9 Rancour
 10 Lives 11 Idol 12 Hoodlum 14 Maladjustment
 16 Unguent 18 Room 21 Ad lib 25 Equator
 23 Lam 24 Thyme 25 Ethical
 DOWN: 1 Carp 2 Awmed 3 Knowledgeable
 4 Earth 5 Follow through 6 Revalue
 7 Metemate 13 Ambulant 15 Legality 17 Theme
 19 Antic 20 Oral

MATTHEW EVANS, chairman of Faber and Faber, says "he must be at least 42". That's how old Matthew is, and he was in Jagger's class at the LSE. My wife remembers that at one of Mick's birthday parties in Chelsea several years ago there was some doubt as to how old he was meant to be even then. Why does anyone care? Not only because Mick Jagger is a rock star (can they still act like adolescents when they are suffering from mid-life crises?) but also because he is a celebrity. We all know exactly what a celebrity is: someone like David Frost, Liza Minnelli or George Best. They become total celebrities only when trying to do something absurd like get married, deal with a drink problem or face a court case of some sort.

I have known Jagger since 1963 or '64. Our relationship is fairly distant and although we call ourselves friends, we are not in the traditional sense so. Mick is often described as lonely, but I don't think he is. One of the obstacles to the deepening of his older friendships is his constant movement. He was wriggling like an eel when I first laid eyes on him. Having heard all about this splendid animal from the girls at my art college, I saw him face to bum for the first time at St Mary's Ballroom in Putney in the winter of 1963, where the Stones were doing a show to promote their first single, "come on," and we, The Who, were their support.

Mick was doing the Twist at the side of the stage. It was a satirical version of the dance: he was throwing his gangling arms from side to side, pursing his lips and making the girls around him laugh. His bum, such as it is, was thrust out like a baboon's. We all laughed. The curtains were closed; in front of them, the audience our band had unnecessarily tried to warm up were already screaming. Jagger knew everyone was watching, so he hammed it up a little bit more, getting his blood and adrenalin flowing for the show. Before the curtains even opened he was at full tilt - a complete exhibitionist.

Jagger once claimed, as I have done, that he had thought about becoming a musician. I have the feeling that for once in my life I am getting to the post first. In most other respects, Jagger beat me to it. He heard rhythm and blues before I did, played it before I did, made a million before I did, went to America before I did, got taken for a fool by Alan Klein before I did, met Robert Fraser before I did, tried LSD, DMT, cocaine, marijuana, and so on before I did. He probably had a hundred groupies before I even poured one a polite drink back in the Holiday Inn. But I have stopped living for rock and roll before he has.

Living in Ealing in 1963, I used occasionally to see the Stones as they gathered near the Ealing Club to go off to Soho for rehearsals. They were staggering to look at, even to an art student like me who had seen lots of men with long hair and had even met a junkie or two. When I first saw Jagger close up on stage at Putney, I thought I

The author has been the guitarist and chief composer of The Who, for whom he has written such works as *Tommy* and *Quadrophenia*, since 1965. His interest in publishing led to the recent announcement of an association with Faber and Faber, under whose aegis he will have his own imprint.



Is he really a ruthless, scheming, vain, duplicitous, sex-mad, cowardly swine?

I spent so much of my youth wanting to look striking or beautiful that it was years before I realized that I was not exactly average looking, and not exactly ugly. I know now, approaching 40 myself, that the way a person looks is really not at all important, but when I am with Jagger I do love to look at him. He is still very beautiful in my eyes; much has been said of his "androgynous" attraction, and I suppose my response to his physical presence confirms all that. Jagger is also such a charismatic person that he could easily make you forget his looks. I cannot forget, though, the way Jagger looked on the stage at St Mary's Ballroom in Putney. A gangly young man doing the Twist inspired me to commit myself completely to the rock and roll stage.

Wading through all the biographies about Jagger and the Stones, I get the feeling I am reading only what the biographers expected would be remembered. If, like Tony Sanchez, they are close enough to the band for their memories to be accurate, all they seem to be able to remember are scoring the drugs and being a "comfort" to neglected girlfriends. If, like Carey Schofield, they are too young to have had first-hand knowledge, they tend simply to read everyone else's books and the collected press cuttings. (She poses glamorously on her own book jacket opposite Jagger - a peculiarly sullen girl.) What I want to say here in contrast is something fresh and vital,

صدا من الامل

MODERN TIMES



A sideways look at the British way of life

Just declare my aversion to the telephone answering machine, and suggest that I am not so. To me it has always seemed to be the ironic equivalent of having the front door opened to you by a filing cabinet, which is not an experience I relish, even at the swiftest of isochords. For a start, the instant nature of the phone gives it a certain informality, which is why it is used by the usually stiff and frozen thing locked into the other end.

Observe how even the fastest-talking of your mds slumps to the drear pace of thirty three and a half rpm; mark how depersonalized his once spy gambit has become; note how he himself becomes all things to all men, acknowledging pulsive calls from sons and lovers alike with a gle uniform. "I am afraid Mr Franks is not in at the moment. If you would care to leave your message, he will..." Oh shut up. In short, see how a bloodless piece of technology makes Ian McDonald of Robert Robinsons. It is an

unattractive alchemy, and I want nothing to do with it.

I know that apologists for the machine will tell you that it is a splendid ally in the war on waste, that you can maximize your use of the hours in the day by "being available" at all times, and I have no doubt that in the commercial context this is true. Manufacturers and retailers will tell you that once their users have overcome their early misgivings about installing these aliens on the premises, they soon come to wonder how they ever conducted their businesses without them.

All of which may be true, but does not overcome the caller's problem of being confronted by a vocal disembodiment of the person he seeks. How are you to cope with the once garrulous colleague who has suddenly taken it into his head to say: "Please speak slowly and please speak now. Beep?" Just as there are ground rules for the owner of the machine, so there are patterns of response among callers.

There is, for example, the refusnik, the caller who simply refuses, showjumper-fashion, to attempt the communicative hurdle. The machine beeps and he hangs up. This has substantial annoyance value against the user, as some machines, particularly the older varieties, can be mechanically thrown by such non-co-operation. Moreover, the owner returns to find mere silence where he had hoped for some earnest of a meal or a deal. For him this is the equivalent of opening an envelope with a portentous postmark only to

discover a blank sheet of paper inside. The most dedicated of refusniks argue that their tactic has the merit of trading anonymity for anonymity and are universally unpopular with users.

Then there is the wag, also a tiresome customer, who attempts levity or irreverence when his solemn cue sounds. The wag falls into a number of categories; these include the fellow who tries to pass himself off as an answering machine: "Mr X regrets he is unable to speak to telephone answering machines and will call again in the hope of finding you in. Beep."

Of course, the wag's clothes have been stolen to some extent by those users who attempt to huminize the whole procedure by their "jokey" recordings. See Oz Clarke below. In America this is all getting quite out of hand. Unsavoury greetings abound, such as this one, *a la* Mario Puzo: "Ring back pronto, schmuck or I'll send the boys round to break both yer legs."

Then there is the smoothie, usually a bit of a technocrat himself, who enters into the spirit of the game. He has no compunction about twirling on his revolving chair and MacDonald-speaking his memorandum into the void. Indeed, he relishes the act, in feeding the hour of his call (24-hour clock ref. of course), place of origin, and spray of poss nos where contactable. He is user's friend number one, the fellow who makes it all worthwhile, and *entre nous*, a bit of a creep.

Like it or not, the answering machine is proliferating. People call them answerphones, but

that is, strictly speaking, a solecism. It is like calling vacuum cleaners Hoovers, for Ansafoe is one manufacturer among many, the senior rival in a field swelled by British Telecom's relaxation on the sale restrictions of such equipment. The proper generic term for the devices is telephone answering machines, or TAMS for short, and the market has been flooded by, to name but a few brands, Recordcall, Answercall, GMTC '83, Panasonic, Binatone, and Call Jotter.

My own favourite mechanical voice, all too soon expunged, is that belonging to the polite young woman at the *Financial Times* information service. Somewhere between the drachma and the yen, things went badly wrong for her, and the cool tones, which seemed to speak of sensible dresses and cucumber sandwiches, gave way to a four-letter expletive in the best Nixonian traditions. The tape went round several times in this condition before the word was deleted, and the brokers of the world were jamming the switchboard in wonder.

I phoned her up to congratulate her on her welcome fallibility and she had the grace not to swear at me. Instead she explained, very unrecordedly, that there had been a technical error. When I asked her what sort, she replied: "The technical error was that I said: 'beep'." And then she said it again.

Penny Perick

One is one and all alone

Neil Kinnock, Roy Hattersley, Barbara Windsor and I might all have turned out differently if it had not been for the only child syndrome. Sole recipient of our parents' love, pride, anxiety and forebodings, the childhood of one and only is constantly under the spotlight, one's every action deemed worthy of notice, whether critical or approving. No wonder, we're different from other people.

There is impressive evidence to show that one children get more than their fair share of life's prizes, not surprisingly, since they start out with more than their fair share of attention and encouragement. The only child is becoming increasingly fashionable throughout the western world; already, in Germany, nearly half of all babies are born to women who don't plan on any further visits to the maternity hospital. This trend has been linked to the rise in two-income families, who think that a one-child household won't disrupt the pattern of their working lives unduly.

Maybe not, but it will certainly alter the pattern of their emotional one. My own parents had not a moment's peace for fear that my life might pass out of their expert hands. To their full-time paid jobs, they added another, unpaid and quite thankless, of getting me raised to perfection.

As I got older, this came to mean shielding me from unsuitable young men, unsuitable, in their book, not necessarily meaning one who was reckless, imprudent or uncaring, but one who didn't announce his five-year plan to hand me the sun, moon and stars.

A perfect trinity of mutual love

Iris Murdoch, another only child, said that she and her parents lived in a perfect trinity of mutual love. Others of us lived in a hellish threesome of mutual conflict; parents and child horribly obsessed with each other's shortcomings. At the time, I reeked of self-pity, longing to trade in my lone star status for equal billing among a group of siblings. Decades later, the pity is all for my parents, their whole investment sunk in one sulky daughter. How much nicer for them to have had a choice of child for company. For in a multi-child setup, the temporary vileness of one is offset by the equally temporary delightfulness of another.

The rebellious only child, refusing to live by its parents' rules, carries a nagging burden of guilt. By insisting on the right to my own opinions and tastes, I knew I was consigning my parents to oblivion; there were no other inheritors to carry on their point of view.

Once, having listened to me make an appeal for funds for the local Labour Party, a friend asked my somewhat conservative mother, "Aren't you proud of her?" "No," said my saddened parent. "I just wonder where I went wrong. Had I had sisters, one of them might have made her happy by turning out like Lady Olga Maitland."

Only children do well because we have been brought up to think of ourselves as extra special. The dark side of this coin gives us a dreaded fear of failure. How can we possibly repay all those years of undivided attention by turning out ordinary?

Only children are good fighters

Only children grow up to be good fighters - we have had years of practice learning to hold on to our own small corner.

My best friend grew up in a family of eight. Very nasty it was too, she claims, all that teasing and squabbling and having to fight for attention. When we compare our upbringing, it seems to me that my parents put in more time rearing the single apple of their eye than hers ever did on bringing up their huge brood. Perhaps parenthood, like practically everything else, obeys Parkinson's Law - "work expands to fill the time available" and all those couples planning an economy-sized single child family are not going to find it a very time-saving operation after all.

A fast-dwindling dot on Telly

If anyone is in a position to say, "I told you so," it is Professor Gerry Mander who, several years ago, suggested that, since there was no evidence to prove that television was beneficial, it should be pronounced a Bad Thing, along with hard drugs and lead in petrol. Since then, his views have been vindicated by one report, "Popular TV and Schoolchildren", published by the Department of Education and another, on equally damning lines, to be published soon, written by the Dean of Oxford Polytechnic.

Last week, the IBA reported that it had had nearly twice as many letters of complaint about television programmes last year than in the previous one. Even so, Professor Mander's remedy that television should simply be banned, seems a little drastic as well as unnecessary.

CORRECTION
The name of the chairman of the Henley Regatta Committee of Management, Mr Peter Coni, QC, was misspelled in Modern Times, June 27. Oarsman Chris Bailleu attended Radley, not Radlett.

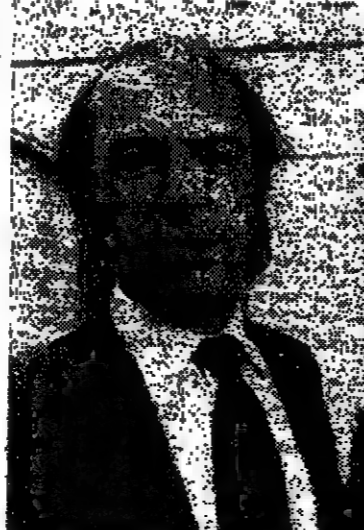
What's my line ?

Bleepphone

Viki Jones (b/w/w)
Advertisement production manager

Howard Davies and I live in the same house so we share the answering machine. We change messages quite a lot - I say "we", it Howard hasn't done one for a while... It's time he had a go. He did one very good message but it got accidentally wiped... The first one we both talked, Howard saying "This is..." and my voice saying "Howard Davies" and vice versa. We had something about the fact that we shared the same address and answering machine - if nothing else, that was quite funny. Then there was one where I answered in a kind

of Swap Shop voice - breathless and keen. Lots of people answered back to similar voices. Now I do a rather hysterical one, all in a rush, pleading with the caller not to ring off just because it's a machine. Perhaps it's time for a change again: I like doing lots of different accents, I hope it will be funny. The trouble is, if you're too clever it baffles people and they don't say anything at all, when we first had the machine we played around with it a lot and used to come home every evening to see the red light - and listen to lots of bleeps. My father is very funny; he leaves a very stiff, formal message saying "This is your father speaking". But the trouble with funny messages is that they're only funny with friends or people who know you: people who don't might by put off and leave no message at all!



Smilephone

Mike Webster (b/w/w)
Marketing Director, Answering Ltd

I've no wish to knock answering machines; if they suit you that's fine. In our experience, however, seven out of 10 people who ring and find an answering machine, ring off - and it is infuriating not to know who called, when and why. We provide the personal touch and we can elicit a response from a caller, even one who is reluctant to give one. Our operators are all taught the basic training code - to remember the three Ws who called, what they wanted and where they can be reached.

We select our staff by interview, but we don't necessarily look for trained telephone operators (it's

difficult to get rid of bad habits if they have them). We look for a unique talent - someone with personality and intelligence - we give them a test - who likes dealing with people. And we teach them to smile when they answer the phone: that sounds crazy but it works, the whole tone of the voice changes. Our service has to be all things to all men - and all women. We can provide an office identity for the one-man business where the proprietor may not want to rely on his wife answering the phone (she may be out, busy, have kids screaming in the background or simply not have a very good telephone manner) or undertake a large service commitment for an international company. We can provide an answering service in office hours or round the clock. If we are on call if you don't answer your phone after four rings we do.

Ramblephone

Howard Davies (b/w/w)
Management consultant

Why does Viki do all the messages? Well I think it's probably because she tends to come in late at night and sometimes records a new one just to cheer herself up. I have done one but it had an accident. The most depressing thing about owning a machine is that before you have it you think of all those people trying to get hold of you while you're out, but when you've got one you often get home to find nobody's called! This machine is mostly just for friends, of course - but I had one call from a company - home decorating I think - a clear, succinct message. I was so pleased that someone had done it

successfully I almost felt like ringing them to give them a job! People think of themselves as articulate you see, but talking to another person, even if he doesn't say a lot - just a few "mms" and "yeses" is quite different from talking to a machine. People help you out: machines don't. Most people ramble a lot, too, when they're leaving a message, which is natural. But the end of the message is the most difficult: you get the most intelligent people leaving a reasonable message and then making a real mess of the end. I suppose because I use them quite a lot at work I don't get nervous talking to a machine - in fact a colleague told me he frequently couldn't tell whether I was talking to a machine or a person. Some people would say that perhaps that is because I treat people like machines.

Loonyphone

Jonathan Hodge (b/w/w)
Jingle writer and artist's model

I've got into a lot of trouble with my machine message. At my old recording studio the three of us went on holiday at the same time because the air-conditioning had cooked out. I left an "ello 'ello, 'owin' to a modification in our ventilation system we've had to scarp to sunnier climes..." message, using lots of mechanical jargon. (I said I'd gone to the Caribbean because it sounded better than Majorca.) Three weeks later when I returned it was to be met by a large policeman at Gatwick Airport, where I was held for questioning. It seems that lots of people had rung and got the message and passed the number on to their friends. One was a flight engineer on a 707 who took it into his head that it was a bomb scare in code (there were lots about at the time). It took a long time explaining to the Old Bill that there was nothing sinister in the message. They even held up the Jumbo until they were sure. We put on sensible messages after that, for a while. Then I couldn't resist doing another "ello 'ello, this is a burglar speakin'... there's no-one 'ere at



present but if you don't tell the occupants, I'll leave your name and number with this nice arrestin' officer." A bit of a goof, we got a lot of people worried and another rollicking from the law. Now I've got one where I sort of blow a fanfare, give the name of the company in a kind of "Roll up, roll up" voice, ask them to leave a message and do another fanfare. You can talk for hours if you want because it's voice activated.



Babblephone

Oz Clarke (b/w/w)
Actor and wine writer

I'm just a red-headed, Irish, wine-loving, tennis-playing actor/writer who likes the freedom an answering machine gives - and who can't resist the chance of a few gags. Let me see if I can remember some of them.

Well, I went to Australia in February so naturally when I got back Les Patterson answered the phone with "gedday" and a lot of chat - then I was in France, and on my return he was still answering, talking about the land of the garlic eaters and all those nasty garlic habits... And then there's one where I'm particularly fond of, Sir Deirdre Spittle - he's always

drunk and has to be helped out by Cyril, a king of butler figure with a Donald Sinden sort of persona. They have a wonderful relationship. Sir Deirdre is always terribly slurred - says things like "Le beaujolais nouveau est arrive" (when has clearly already had six bottles of the stuff). I did try it straight once, said something like "This is Oz Clarke's serious message..." but I just couldn't carry it off. And then I melted the machine drying it in front of a fire and I was mortified, so then we had a "requiem for my machine. I get lots of shrieks and giggles and camp messages - and some brilliant ones. British Telecom used to ring up a lot. There were 32 messages one morning, 25 from BT, most of them saying "just want to listen to your message." Just now, I'm a crossed line.

Judy Froshaug

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

FALLING ASLEEP OVER THE NEWSPAPER, FLAVIA DREAMS THAT GERARD MANLY HAS INVITED HER TO THE WORLD'S FIRST BARBECUE, IN PREHISTORIC SURREY...

... So glad you could come to our little day-pit warming party, Flavia. Have a chocolate-covered ant.

Look, we're barbecuing an unknown carnivore! It was lying at the bottom of the ice-age, and its label had fallen off.

Don't you like your claw? Throw it over your shoulder, and try this spare rib. Or spare something. Scientists have yet to identify it.

Almost certainly it was ostracized it was cut dead - we in Dorking don't approve of ostentatious carnivorousness. We consider it bad form not to fit into the evolutionary ambience...

I see. Well I just obliterate Dorking from the Good Food Guide.





THE TIMES DIARY

Key of C and D?

Leonard Bernstein wants musicians all over the world to demonstrate for nuclear disarmament by wearing sky-blue armbands on August 25, his sixty-fifth birthday. British orchestras, he suggests, should march on the American base at Upper Heyford so attired for an anti-nuclear musical rally, while he will be wearing an armband in his hometown of Lawrence, Massachusetts. The BBC has received a letter promoting the idea, signed by Bernstein's fellow-conductors, Georg Solti, Michael Tilson Thomas and Julius Rudel, and by the violinist, Pinchas Zukerman. A BBC spokeswoman says: "We will notify members of the BBC Symphony Orchestra by posting the letter on their noticeboard, but I doubt many will be able to attend any rally. They will be too busy rehearsing for the Proms."

London's burning

Londoners spend a lot of time craving hot weather, but on the rare occasions when the real thing comes, they are nonplussed and really rather wish it would go away. They may be just that bit cooler now, but still they spill disgruntled out of pubs into streets never meant for basking; still the traffic is more unpleasant than usual, cab-drivers nastier, their fares readier to bolt into the steamy middle distance rather than settle up after an unpleasant ride. The summer sales are uncharacteristically languid in the absence of air-conditioning and even the heatwaves in cosmetics and perfumery will like sweet peas preparing to set pods. "At least Harrods is worse," one of Setridge's exotics sighs wearily at me. There are literary precedents. Galsworthy wrote "Summer, summer, summer! The soundless footsteps on the grass" to signal an imminent death. After the mid-1970s heatwaves Paul Theroux wrote that London was really "designed for grim weather, not crowds... best in drizzle or gleaming dully under a thin layer of ice." Heat only "started the poisons in the bricks and woke the smell of decay." "Is there no change of death in paradise?" Wallace Stevens wondered. "Does ripe fruit never fall? Or do the boughs hang always heavy in that perfect sky, unchanged..."

Whale of a time

There is consternation among conservationists at Brighton, where the International Whaling Commission's annual quota-fixing has for four years treated the town to displays of all the paraphernalia of up-market mammalian preservation. The venue is now to be shifted, to Buenos Aires. Officials explain that the meeting is traditionally held in the native country of the chairman - at present, Eduardo Iglesias of Argentina. Brighton held the booking only because the last chairman was from Iceland, where they could not find a hall big enough for the conference.

● A firm of investment advisers is urging that we put our money into proven losers. The worst-performing fund in one year is often among the best in the next year, reason Julian Gibbs Associates. "This kind of dramatic turnaround happens in most years; an excellent reason for investing in the worst-performing sector."

Away days

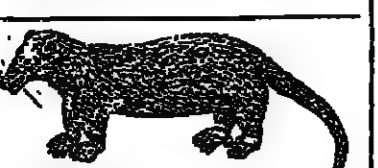
Sunsets, the holiday people, have been asking the rich and famous how they relax. The Prime Minister likes to read thrillers, Lord Weinstock recommends wedding and Sir Harold Wilson fancies a pint at his local. Barbara Cartland travels, Katie Boyle sleeps, Sir Robin Day goes skiing. Only Magnus Pyke refuses to play: "My formula for 'relaxing on holiday' is never to go on holiday."

Sidetracked

A traveller wanting to avoid the sun on a curtainless Inter-City train from King's Cross to Newark asked to reserve a seat on the left-hand side of the carriage. "Ah no, sir," he was told. "Smoker or non-smoker, facing the engine or back to it, but our computer cannot tell its left from its right."

The other half

As Alan Franks reported on this page on Saturday, rivalry is intense between television companies engaged on Orwellian projects for 1984. Yet in the field there is some cooperation. Steve Wadhams, working for CBC, unearthed a prospectus from Orwell's formative prep school, St Cyprians, dating back to the time when young Eric Blair was a pupil there. One of the *Arena* team asked Wadhams if they could use his find. The deal was clinched - for half a pint of lager. I think Orwell would have approved.



Australian health authorities are hot on the trail of a killer: sweet and sour possum. Already 700 kilograms of possum meat from Tasmania have been recovered from Chinese restaurants and Asian foodmarkets around Melbourne. One meat wholesaler had openly advertised possums at \$10 a carcass. The Victorian health minister says scarily: "Toxoplasmosis from possums can cause blindness, brain defects and death." It may reassure him to know that in Tennessee, possum and sweet taters is a classic dish.

PHS

Love thy neighbour - or else



Johannesburg. South Africa is once again tightening the screws on tiny Lesotho, the former British protectorate of Basutoland and since 1966 a sovereign member of the Commonwealth, whose 1.3m inhabitants occupy 11,800 square miles of mountainous terrain in the very heart of the Republic, sharing borders with the Orange Free State, Natal, Cape Province, and the nominally independent Xhosa-speaking tribal homeland of Transkei.

The pressure being applied takes the form of elaborate security checks on traffic into and out of Lesotho, causing long delays and disruption to the small country's commercial life, which, whether it likes it or not, is an integral part of the South African economy.

The South Africans used the same tactics at the end of May after a bomb explosion in Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, which is separated from Lesotho by the Caledon River. The South Africans claimed that the bomb had been planted by an agent of the underground African National Congress (ANC) operating out of Lesotho.

The South African stronghold was relaxed after the meeting in a Johannesburg hotel on June 3 between Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and Evaristus Sekhonyana, his Lesotho counterpart, at which each side agreed to take steps to prevent its territory from being used as a base for subversion against the other.

It is believed that Mr Botha gave Mr Sekhonyana the names of several ANC operatives alleged by Pretoria to be planning further guerrilla attacks on South Africa, and asked for help in flushing them out. The implied quid pro quo was that Pretoria would curb the activities of the Lesotho Liberation Army of Ntsu Mokhehle, a long-standing political foe of Chief Leabua Jonathan, Lesotho's Prime Minister. Mr Mokhehle is thought to operate from South Africa.

The agreement quickly foundered. In the second half of June and early July there were reports of a series of clashes between the 1,500-man Lesotho paramilitary force and groups of "bandits", culminating in a two-day battle with 30 gunmen who were said in Maseru, Lesotho's

village-size capital, to be mercenaries sent by South Africa to assassinate Chief Jonathan.

The South Africans responded with a strongly worded Note to the United Nations dismissing Lesotho's allegations and warning that if Chief Jonathan continued to provide "sanctuary to terrorists operating against South Africa he should not be surprised if South Africa takes the required action to eliminate them."

This was followed by a remarkable attack on Chief Jonathan in *Current Affairs*, a usually turgid weekly commentary put out by the South African Broadcasting Corporation which closely reflects government thinking. It painted a picture of the "poorly premised", grimly hanging on to power after 13 years without elections in the face of widespread popular discontent, and said that he had become a menace to the stability of southern Africa.

About a week later, Charles Mofeli, a leading opposition MP in Maseru, was expelled from Lesotho's parliament for criticizing the ANC presence in his country in an interview with the SABC. Mr Mofeli had been dismissed from Chief Jonathan's cabinet a few months earlier for advocating the establishment of diplomatic relations with Pretoria.

The current hostile phase in relations between South Africa and Lesotho began last December with the South African commando raid on alleged ANC "nests" in Maseru in which 42 people were killed, 12 of them Lesotho civilians. Most of the rest were ANC members, although how many were active guerrillas remains a matter for conjecture.

After the raid, between 60 and 100 ANC officials were believed to have

been flown to safety elsewhere. There are, however, nearly 11,000 South African blacks in exile in Lesotho, which continues to insist stoutly on its right to shelter refugees, even if they are ANC members, while denying that it allows its territory to be used as a base for guerrilla activity.

Chief Jonathan thumbed his nose at the South Africans even more provocatively by touring communist block countries earlier this year and inviting the Soviet Union, China, North Korea, Yugoslavia and Rumania to open embassies in Maseru.

By inviting the Russian bear into the very heart of the *laager* itself, Chief Jonathan has powerfully reinforced Pretoria's paranoia about Moscow-inspired subversion, and also risked alienating Lesotho's staunchly anti-communist Roman Catholic church, which has the support of about 40 per cent of the population.

Chief Jonathan's defiance of Pretoria has done wonders for his international image. From a tinpot dictator leading one of the most pliant of South Africa's pliant states, he has been transmogrified into an heroic African David battling the white Goliath of apartheid. He has even established a new rapport with Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe, a scholarly recluse whom the Prime Minister stripped of his powers a decade ago.

But it is a dangerous game. Pretoria could crush Lesotho at will, and is perhaps deterred from doing so only by some lingering concern for world opinion. The small kingdom could be throttled to death within weeks if South Africa were to cut off vital supplies.

Michael Hornsby

Roy Hattersley outlines his objectives if he becomes Labour Party leader

Hard truths we must face to win back our heritage

The Labour Party has a moral duty to win the next general election and to obtain the power that will enable us to build a socialist society in Britain. We must begin at once to rebuild our strength and our reputation. Changes have to be made, but only our enemies will profit from a period of bitter internal dispute. The debates which produce the improvements must be fraternal, not fratricidal. Recent events inside the party have shown that bitterness and anger make us slide deeper and deeper into unrepresentative impotence, losing more and more of our vote and failing in more and more by-elections.

We can win only if we inspire the idealism of the British people. That requires a further restatement of the socialist principles that will guide us when we are in office. The idea that we have to choose between radicalism and reality, commonsense and socialism, is a view held only by those who do not understand the working class in this country. The Labour Party's recent tragedy has been that we have failed to translate progressive instincts into votes and seats in the House of Commons.

We did not lose the last election because our policies were too radical; we failed because we made promises that many of our potential supporters believed we could not keep. We must fight the next election on policies which make clear our determination to create a more equal society.

But the proposals we make for changing Britain must be coherent and convincing. We must make clear the way in which real equality enhances human dignity and individual freedom. We must know the cost of our programme and be prepared to explain the way in which the bills will be paid. Above all, we must avoid the contradictions and confusion that are often the unhappy result of the way in which our policies are determined.

The Labour Party cannot afford another long agony of so-called constitutional reform. Last month's defeat was in no small part the result of years of wrangling that we once called "democratic change" and the institutionalized conflict which it created. But we must - at first informally and then by changes in our procedures and practices - give greater power to the individual party member. If we spoke for our rank and file members we would speak for the British people.

The typical Labour Party member - like the potential Labour Party voter who lives next door - wants Labour to look like a potential government, not a protest movement or pressure group, not a collection of warring factions, not a debating society or museum of exotic and extreme minority opinions. Our average member - like the voters who abandoned us - believes in our good intentions, but doubts our ability to turn hope into reality.

Last June our economic policy was a net vote-loser. Our vague hopes of achieving growth through



spending were barely understood and rarely believed. The idea of "borrowing to expand" proved crucially unpopular. The British people realized that the whole strategy lacked two essential ingredients: a coherent plan for investment and a scheme to combat inflation.

Next time we must boldly assert our intention to create new manufacturing capacity by public investment in potential growth industry. And we must make absolutely clear that public investment will - as a matter of commonsense and equity - be accompanied by a measure of public control. We must also make plain that in the expanding economy we intend to create, the government and the unions will agree the level of incomes which is consistent with our other economic objectives and which allows a national minimum

We can give men and women power over their daily lives

wage for the lowest paid. The slogan "socialism through free collective bargaining" is a contradiction in terms.

We must be wholly frank about the pace of potential recovery. Overstating the speed at which we can put Britain back to work undermines faith in our judgment or our honesty. We must be equally clear about our future spending programmes.

Of course, an increase in public expenditure is an essential feature of both our economic policy and our central objective - the creation of a more equal society. But we cannot meet the immediate demands of

We do not share Margaret Thatcher's view of liberty - the right of the rich and powerful to exploit their wealth and power irrespective of the interests of others. But we must not become the party of regulation and uniformity.

If we are to respect and trust the people, we must begin to listen to their opinions on the policy that lost us most votes at the last election - defence and disarmament. Nobody who canvassed in the last election can harbour any doubt about the damage done to our prospects by the contradiction inherent in our policy as presented in the manifesto. Our opposition to cruise and Pershing missiles was widely shared. So was our rejection of the waste and danger inherent in the purchase of Trident and our offer to include Polaris in multilateral negotiations. But the notion that we might give up our nuclear protection if others did not do the same was overwhelmingly rejected.

I am unapologetically the candidate of improvement

Opposition to our policy was intensified by the confusion that surrounded our proposals. We said that NATO remained our protection. But we refused to accept our NATO obligations. We promised effective conventional defence. Yet we insisted that a Labour government would cut the defence budget. There is now an urgent need to resolve these conflicts in our policy. In the other area of foreign policy, where so many votes were lost, the return to reality has already begun. Conversion to the acceptance of the European Community is belated but welcome.

Influential voices in the party will argue against the adjustments in policy and behaviour that must be made if we are to win the election. Some will go so far as to order to retain their own position of power. Others will genuinely believe that we can succeed in four or five years' time without making any attempt to reflect the hopes and wishes of the men and women whose votes we need for victory.

It was these people - the well-intentioned but misguided - whose advice we followed in June. As a result, we endure another Conservative government: its ruthless assault on public expenditure, its demolition of the health service, its callous disregard for pensioners, its acceptance of massive unemployment as an instrument of economic policy. Most bitterly ironic of all - thanks to our failure to win the votes that would have made victory possible - cruise missiles will be stationed in Great Britain and Trident will be added to our armory.

I am, therefore, unapologetically the candidate of change and improvement. That does not make me the most comfortable or least controversial of the contestants. But it makes me the candidate of the hard truth. If because of complacency or cowardice we fail to meet the challenge the Party now faces we will have denied our heritage. Indeed we will have betrayed those millions of men and women who look to us to change society - and know that it can only be achieved by a party that wins votes and takes power. They want us to govern Britain and to bring about the more equal society that our philosophy proclaims. That achievement is still within our grasp - but only if we act bravely and begin to act at once.

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Tom Wicker

Reagan's backyard pathway to war?

Mexico City. Where is the Reagan Administration's hard-line policy against the Sandinista government of Nicaragua taking us? Public opinion in the United States seems not much concerned, but the Mexican Government fears that Reagan's militaristic approach may lead to war between Nicaragua and Honduras at almost any time.

This is not an abstract worry. Commenting on Reagan's new commission on Central America, to be headed by Dr Henry Kissinger, a high Mexican official said the problem was too urgent to wait for the commission's scheduled report in December. War could come before then he said, if the CIA-sponsored Contras continue their incursions into Nicaragua from their sanctuaries in Honduras.

War is clearly in the mind of Daniel Ortega Saavedra, too. As the coordinator of the Sandinista junta, he warned the Nicaraguan people to prepare for more fighting, in a speech marking the fourth anniversary of the revolution that brought the junta to power. Nicaraguan officials have been openly predicting a United States-supported invasion from Honduras.

But that is not the only way war could start. The border clashes could get out of control on either side. Or the Nicaraguans might stride into Honduras, although they are not believed to be eager to bring on an open clash with the United States.

However it begins, in the Mexican view, such a Central American war would be a disaster, and far more of a threat to United States interests and those of other nations in the region than the Sandinista regime - in a small, impoverished country - could ever be.

The United States certainly could not remain unengaged in a Nicaraguan war. Having armed and equipped the Contras, including many elements of the old oppressive Somoza government, overthrown in 1979 by the Sandinistas, and having led Honduras from a weak but democratic form of government toward right-wing military leadership, Washington could scarcely abandon its ally if war broke out. And it is by no means clear that such a war could be fought for long, much less won, without United States troops coming to the aid of Honduras forces generally considered ineffective.

Depending on the extent of Washington's participation and the threat to Nicaragua, Cuba would almost surely be drawn in to some degree. Having helped the Sandinistas to power, as well as to sustain them for four years, Fidel Castro would be forced to come to their assistance, although some analysts think that the last thing he, too, wants is an open clash with the United States.

Cuba's participation in a Central American war, of course, would raise the question of the Soviet Union's response. Even if it were only to send arms and supplies, that would lead to a direct Soviet-American confrontation that no one wants.

Even if the most dangerous side-effects could be averted, the Mexican view is that a Nicaraguan-Honduran war would be worse than anything that could be achieved by it. Even if the Nicaraguan regime could be overthrown, which surely could not be done without Cuban and perhaps Soviet intervention having first been overcome, the Sandinistas have made it clear that they would resume guerrilla warfare and perhaps foment it throughout the region.

"I do not see a military intervention that will end the conflict in Central America," the Mexican official said. He thought it would bring instead a period of turmoil for many years, in which the United States inevitably would be entangled. That is why the Reagan policy of initiating and supporting the Contras' military attacks on Nicaragua - Ortega said they had

Overthrowing the regime would be the start of real trouble

already caused 600 deaths this year and millions of dollars' worth of damage - is seen in Mexico City as extremely dangerous.

It is hardly likely, of course, that Reagan actually wants a Nicaraguan-Honduran war, so clearly would the United States have to be heavily involved and so great are the dangers. That would not be the best campaign plan for a president who is almost certainly seeking reelection.

But since the military pressure on Nicaragua clearly risks such a war, it is fair to ask what that policy can achieve that is worth the risk. Stopping the arms flow into El Salvador? Even if Washington had been able to produce a shred of evidence that this flow is of substantial importance to the Salvadoran guerrillas, there should be better ways to stop it than military attacks on Nicaragua that could bring on general war.

Forcing the Sandinistas toward a more democratic or pro-United States policy? Military attacks do not seem likely to accomplish that. Overthrowing the regime? As the Mexicans see it, that would not be the end but the beginning of real trouble. So what is Reagan's goal? Where does his Nicaraguan policy lead? If he knows, now is the time to let the people decide if they want to follow.

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Gerald Kaufman

Passing the town hall buck

Any day now Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for the Environment, will publish a White Paper on the future of the rating system. Like most of this Government's secrets, the contents of this forthcoming document have already been profusely leaked. In this case, however, the Prime Minister has no need to set up one of her fruitless investigations. The identity of the culprit is already exposed. He is none other than Mr Jenkin himself who, within the past week, has turned into the Lina Lamont of British politics. It will be recalled that in that cinematic masterpiece *Singin' in the Rain* Miss Lamont, a silent movie star, delivered herself of the significant confession: "I gave an exclusive story to every paper in town". Mr Jenkin has followed that illustrious precedent.

So we know that what the Government has in mind is a system whereby a group of local authorities selected as victims *pour encourager les autres*, will have their right to fix their own rate levels removed and replaced by government diktat, rubber-stamped by Parliament. This procedure, we are sternly informed, is all in the interests of control of public expenditure.

Every government takes a close interest in local government spending, and I have to say that I have come to wonder why. After all, local authority borrowing is already controlled by Whitehall. Even more subject to the Government's wishes is the rate support grant, which is distributed for the express purpose of being spent and whose level is fixed by the Secretary of State.

As for rate-borne expenditure, it is of course balanced exactly by the rates levied on local taxpayers, and so adds precisely nothing in net terms to public expenditure. Rate poundages are a bargain struck between councillors and their electors, and any local authority which levies too high a rate soon finds itself in trouble at the polling booths.

What, then, is all the fuss about? Mr Jenkin has summed it up in remarkable and indeed bizarre fashion. In one of his numerous interviews he has complained that the free exercise by local authorities of their rating powers "erodes the taxable capacity of the nation".

What, presumably, he means by this is that if councils retain liberty to levy their own rates they may be cheeky enough to take too much, leaving insufficient scope for government tax increases. This is an interesting revelation on the inner thought processes of a government ostensibly dedicated to the grand cause of tax reduction.

This month's White Paper is to be followed by a brief period of consultation, with legislation sched-

uled for the autumn. Although the Government has made clear that it is Labour councils which will be marked out as its prey, Conservative leaders have already given notice that they too will fight the rate-capping proposals. Mr Ian McCalum, Conservative chairman of the Conservative-controlled Association of District Councils, has denounced the whole scheme as "unnecessary, unreasonable and especially unjust". Mr John Lovell, Conservative chairman of the equally Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils, says that the Government's plan "challenges the autonomy of local government".

Both, no doubt, have in mind the real prospect that councillors who refuse to accept their allotted role as Mr Jenkin's functionaries could find themselves in jail. That is why one of the Secretary of State's more ominous threats could rebound. Mr Jenkin has forecast that persistent refusal by councils to obey Whitehall's instructions could lead the Department of the Environment to put commissioners into the town halls, charged with taking over completely the duties of elected authorities. No doubt Mr Jenkin intends that this dark warning will make councillors' blood run cold. They are more likely to seize on it as their potential salvation.

For more than three years, under earlier legislation devised by Michael Heseltine and his successor, Mr Tom King, local authorities have been required to carry out the Government's bidding by sophisticated mechanisms that created no martyrs and left the odium for service cuts and redundancies, as well as higher rates, firmly in the laps of reluctant and sullen local councillors.

That local authority expenditure nevertheless failed to conform as closely to the Government's wishes as those Secretaries of State would have liked is in fact a tribute to the civic responsibility of council leaders. Their attitude was summarized earlier this month by Mr Robert Neame, leader of Kent County Council (Conservative-controlled, in case anyone for a moment doubted it) in these words: "We regret that Kent will be penalized, but our first duty is to ensure the provision of essential services at a cost acceptable to the rate payers."

If councillors now find that they can leave all the dirty work - and the public and political odium - to one of Mr Jenkin's commissioners, many will leap at the chance. The Secretary of State's ultimate deterrent may turn out to be Labour councillors' deliverance.

The author is Labour MP for Manchester, Gorton.



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TO MERGE OR NOT TO MERGE?

Five weeks of work, almost done for the long run on Friday. There is much to be done during the summer days. This summer the Tories must plant the seedcorn for the next election if they wish to win. The whole political landscape has undergone a seismic change since the ouster of the last Labour government. The three main parties have all been reformed and are now fully worked out effects of that change over the next four to five years. Our task is to find a leader, the Tories an alliance, and the Labour a convincing ally for a second term. Their positions will be examined in this page before Parliament rises.

There is to be an Alliance, or a merger? There are two opposing views on Liberal and Social Democratic minds, and so far no sign of their reconciliation. That perhaps even less likely now Mr. Steel, though superbly engaged in a long holiday, some taken irritation with party, is showing signs of a personal political decision which has afflicted him and does not augur so well for the effort of a long haul in an uncertain political destination.

When the Alliance was formed members seemed to hope they would sweep all before them without having to bother too much about policy or creating a new and lasting political foundation. That euphoria helped to ignore the fact that the SDP members, having belonged to a Labour government, were more interested in policies for government than the Liberals had ever been. Anyone seriously interested in government would not have been likely to join the Liberal party for nearly fifty years. These discrepancies in attitude, however, were subsumed by an assumption that government, or a share in government, could miraculously rise as a consequence of the

collapsing vote of the other two parties. When the fortunes of the Conservatives revived that became less likely. The route to government for the Alliance seemed then to be first through replacing Labour as the viable alternative—a realignment of the left in reverse order to what happened when Labour replaced the Liberals.

In terms of votes cast at the election, that prospect seemed to be the right one. But how does the Alliance now proceed to the next stage? It cannot scale the dwindling citadel of Labour power till the next election. Yet how does it keep up momentum in the meantime? Moreover, it came second to Labour in only 46 seats, compared to being second in 262 Conservative seats. This means that its only real hope of replacing Labour is to wait for a terminal collapse in the Labour vote far in excess of that which occurred last month. Post-election surveys show, incidentally, that the SDP part of the Alliance is more likely to appeal to Labour voters in all areas than the Liberals are, which suggests that, if the policy is to plan for a realignment of the left based on a continuing collapse of Labour, the formation of a formal merger with the Liberal party would be unwise.

The nagging question remains, regardless of the personalities of Dr. Owen and Mr. Steel. Is the third force in British politics strong enough to replace the second force? Or should it stay true to its original rhetoric of breaking the mould, and work for a structure of British politics which is not at all bipolar, but multi-party? The logic of proportional representation is for many political groupings and permanent coalition governments. The logic of the realignment of the left is for a straight takeover of Labour's role as a main alternative to Conservative government in a continuing bipolar system.

The weaknesses of both positions are apparent. The Alliance

will not be in a position to break the mould and introduce a multi-party structure of politics based on proportional representation until it has already won power the conventional way in a basically bipolar system. Yet to do that it needs a cohesion and a credibility which it does not have as two groups.

Yet again, a merger, if that merely enabled the existing Liberals to absorb the SDP, would deprive the Alliance of its special appeal to still unconvinced Labour loyalists, and also its hard edge of policy making—particularly in economics and defence. The SDP capacity to deter the Liberal party from some of its wilder policies is greater as a separate party within an Alliance than it would be as a particular wing of a merged party.

The weakness of the realignment policy is that it leaves the initiative to the Labour party. Alliance politicians can only sit back and wait for Labour to do such violence to itself in its leadership contest and beyond that it continues to lose support. These possibilities will be discussed here tomorrow, but they hardly form a reassuring basis for SDP and Liberal politicians to plan a coherent strategy for the next four to five years.

This explains the likely mudslinging which may emerge in the day to day workings of the Alliance. Informal mergers at constituency level cannot be the blueprint for a successful merger and the formation of a precise political grouping at the national level. Therein lies the risk that a merged party would simply appear to be a reconstituted Liberal party. The lesson of voting patterns since the war is that Liberal fortunes ebb and flow under Labour governments and flourish under Conservative governments, but they do not flow enough to burst through the sluice-gates of the electoral system. It may take more than a long summer for the Alliance to come up with answers to these questions.

BROTHERHOOD AND CAUTION

The Chinese friendship delegation which visited the USSR earlier this month was but one instance of the many contacts now developing between the two states. Border talks, exchanges in port culture and trade, and less politicised statements by leaders in both sides have renewed speculation about the imminence of some dramatic realignment in the relations between the Pacific powers, since the United States will be affected by any change in the Sino-Soviet alliance.

The significance of these growing contacts between Moscow and Peking should not be exaggerated, however. The leaders of both sides have stressed that deeds, not words, are what count in international affairs. The propaganda war has certainly become less strident, but fundamental differences have scarcely diminished.

It was certainly unrealistic to expect immediate results on order issues during the March talks in Moscow with a Chinese delegation under a deputy foreign minister Qian Qichen; Soviet reports of a "substantial détente" were clearly over-optimistic. The territorial dispute as long historic roots. Centuries before Russian colonists spread beyond the Urals into Asia, Chinese influence was paramount. There have been many attempts to fix the boundary between China and Siberia since the first treaty was signed at Nerchinsk in 1689.

Exploiting China's weakness, Russian imperialism pushed the border further south, consolidating its conquests in a series of "unequal treaties" later condemned by both Marx and Lenin. After the 1917 revolution the Soviet government renounced the Tsarist conquests without, however, ceding any territory. Now Moscow denies that any Chinese lands were ever seized by Russia.

Although China naturally resents these losses (the city of Vladivostok, "Ruler of the East", stands on land once

Chinese) Peking does not demand the return of all lost lands—only those taken in violation of the Russo-Chinese treaties. The major disputes are over the islands and navigation rights in the Amur and Ussuri rivers, the scene of fierce fighting in 1969, and the Pamir mountains; in 1981 the USSR signed a border treaty with the Kabul regime in Afghanistan, denounced by Peking as an attempt to preempt Chinese territorial claims amounting to some 20,000 square kilometres in this strategic area. Moscow is afraid to yield even an inch lest other neighbours will be encouraged in their territorial claims.

This territorial dispute came to the fore in the 1960s as part of the general rift between the USSR and China. Ideological differences continue, but they are less bitter than when Moscow was attacking Mao as a "Hitleric warmonger". There is rivalry for influence in "national liberation struggles" and in the non-aligned countries. Both communist giants offer their greatly differing experience in socialist development as the best pattern for others to follow.

The role of the USA is an important factor. Improved Sino-American relations caused considerable upset in the Kremlin and provided further incentive to extend Soviet detente with the West. Yet at the same time Moscow criticized China for "lining up with the imperialists". The USSR emphasizes that, unlike the USA, it fully recognizes Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan; but Peking is aware that Moscow is exploiting US-Chinese differences for its own ends. While Washington retains a realistic assessment of Soviet foreign policy China has no need to fear isolation from a US-Soviet rapprochement, and can afford to show displeasure at Washington's links with Taiwan.

Both socialist states want Western and Japanese technology, but China can set its own pace of development since it

does not share Soviet ambitions to win military superiority over the United States. Unlike the USSR, China is not regarded as a major military threat. It has fairly good relations with the European Community and Japan, and apart from financial stringencies, has few restrictions on expanding trade.

As Premier Zhao Ziyang pointed out recently, progress in the Sino-Soviet talks will be slight while the USSR refuses to discuss major issues such as the occupation of Afghanistan; Soviet support for Vietnam in its border conflict with China and expansionist policies in Cambodia; or the military threat to China of some fifty divisions across the border in the USSR and Mongolia. Peking is just as alarmed as Japan at the build-up of Soviet missiles in the Far East. President Andropov, like his predecessor, has talked of "normalizing" relations with China but has made no concrete proposals.

When weighed against matters of such importance, progress in other areas seems slight. The USSR has seven times more trade with the two million Mongolians in Comecon than with the thousand million Chinese. Despite increasing Chinese contacts with the USSR's East European allies, trade with West Germany alone is several times greater. Moscow Radio recently complained that a Sino-Soviet cultural agreement covers the exchange of ten students this year, while there are nine thousand Chinese students in the capitalist USA.

It would be unwise for Western leaders to depend on the Sino-Soviet dispute to tie up a large proportion of Soviet military strength; it would be even more foolish to attempt to exacerbate the differences. The Chinese leadership is sufficiently aware of the threat of Soviet expansionism; it will no doubt continue to be cautious in developing contacts with Moscow.

produced. Nigel West, one of these journalists, has confirmed to me in writing that "I have no reason to believe that your father was ever disloyal to his country."

Yet words like "spy", "agent" and "agent of influence" are flung around and the accusations are now made once again, bolstered by the innuendo that my father's suicide in 1967 was the result of M15 questioning rather than, as his family and friends know, of his distress and mental illness after my mother's death.

It is intolerable that these leaks, innuendoes and falsehoods should continue, while the records of the secret services remain closed to historians or to the relatives of those involved, but apparently accessible to journalists with voluble but self-

interested contacts. These events occurred a long time ago—most of them before I was born—so that I can look at them with some detachment but also with the desire to know more.

The left-wing politics of the 1930s are a proper subject for historical study and it is inconceivable that judicial or scholarly investigation of them could now endanger national security. It is also misguided to believe, as is sometimes suggested, that keeping such matters secret shields from distress the relatives and friends of those accused.

Yours faithfully,
RODERICK FLOOD,
21 Severnside Road, NW3.
July 19.

The Prince's view of Army discipline

From Mr Ben Vincent

Sir, The Prince of Wales has repeated the "common-sense" opinion that if the young are "given a taste of Army discipline" report, (July 19) they are more likely to become law-abiding citizens. When a distinguished public speaker makes such pronouncements most of us assume that his advisers have researched the subject and can produce evidence. May we know on what the opinion is based? Quite recently we had evidence that the process is at least not automatic. Presumably the Prince is a fine example of the effect of Army discipline but a sizeable group were recently found guilty of serious sexual offence against a girl of fifteen, who was openly brought into their barracks and dormitory in contravention of military security. In defence it was blandly stated that this breach was not very unusual. A few weeks later *The Times* reported that another group of Paras were up before the court for their part in a drunken brawl in the streets of Aldershot. Other cases have been reported from overseas.

Is it not perhaps in accord with common-sense to expect riotous, drunken and sexual misbehaviour when young fellows are removed from the normal discipline of local communities, parents and the residents of streets where they are known?

Do ex-soldiers generally confirm the Prince's observation that their comrades were on the whole less given to theft, vandalism, violence, drunkenness, debauch, contempt of authority, ill-fitness, obscenity and blasphemy than civilians? Yours faithfully,
BEN VINCENT,
4 Hawthorne Road,
Radlett,
Hertfordshire.
July 19.

EEC labour code

From Mr Nigel Kennedy

Sir, Bryan Rigby suggests (July 7) that the Vredeling directive is a damaging and misconceived. But if his support for the principles contained within the draft directive is genuine, and if he really believes that "the British industrial relations tradition" can achieve these standards, why not support the directive itself? It should not cause him much concern. If employee consultation is already—or is about to be—a reality in Britain, then the directive should arrive unopposed. And, if this is the case, it will serve as a useful watchdog over companies which attempt to opt out of their responsibilities regarding employee information whenever they find it inconvenient. Yours faithfully,
NIGEL KENNEDY,
43 Santos Road, SW18.

'Improved' bread

From Mr Justin de Blank

Sir, I write to comment on the proposed alterations to the bread and flour regulations and specifically to oppose the recommendation that will permit certain chemicals to be added to wholemeal bread. I regard this as a thoroughly bad recommendation. "Wholemeal" is a neat, clear-cut word which connotes states that the flour or meal is the result of grinding the whole (or all the component parts) of the grain of wheat.

The justification underlying this recommendation is that the plant bakers find it difficult to bake wholemeal loaves on their plant unless the flour is doctored with "improvers", principally to give more lift or development to the loaf. But wholemeal loaves can perfectly well be made without "improvers" and with flour from English wheat. We bake thousands of such loaves each week using only English wheat. It takes skill but it can be done.

Let others acquire these skills; it is not right to force questionable changes on the public to round the demands of a part—admittedly a large part—of the baking trade.

Yours faithfully,
JUSTIN DE BLANK,
Justin de Blank Provisions Ltd,
42 Elizabeth Street, SW1.
July 13.

Matrimonial links

From Mrs Kathleen Waring

Sir, Perhaps the General Synod of the Church of England would consider changing the words of the Marriage Service to read: "till death or divorce do part". Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN WARING,
251 Wendover House,
Tunbridge Street, SE17.
July 15.

Seabed rights

From Mr Thomas P. Winsor

Sir, Professor Denman (July 15), in making his proposal that the rights of the state to the seabed and subsoil of the UK continental shelf should be conveyed to the oil companies to secure them certain safeguards, errs in a number of important respects.

1. The UK's rights over the UK continental shelf (UKCS) are sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting the natural resources of its seabed and subsoil. Article 76 of the Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf, as enacted into UK law by the Continental Shelf Act 1964. They therefore fall quite far short of the full sovereignty that we enjoy over our land territory, and the two should not be confused.

2. As most of the oil-bearing strata in the UKCS lie in the Scottish sector and the civil law of Scotland applies to it—Continental Shelf

Turning the screw on rate support

From the Leader of the Kent County Council

Sir, I was astonished to read in your main front page report of yesterday's edition (July 19) that Kent County Council might figure on some Government list as an "over spender". I can only presume that it represents the view of your reporter rather than a considered comment of the Secretary of State.

It is no secret that Kent's budget for 1983/84 exceeds the expenditure target set by the Government along with another 147 local authorities in England, and indeed two-thirds of all the shire counties. What matters is the scale of individual authorities' overspending.

The Government applied a relatively mild grant penalty to authorities who overspent their target by no more than 2 per cent, no doubt in recognition of the arbitrary nature of the target. Of those shire counties where the Conservative Party has a clear majority only one exceeded target by more than 2 per cent and their total contribution to the overall excess of £771m was a mere £36m. Thus overspenders pale into insignificance when set against the GLC's excess of £301m, LEA's at £97m and £72m by the six metropolitan counties.

Furthermore, if Patrick Jenkin were to be seriously suggesting that Kent would be branded as an overspender that would be a breathtaking volte-face from his widely reported remarks in the House of Commons about the "tough justice" of the expenditure targets. Those targets are fundamentally based on what authorities have spent in the past, so that they already legitimate to a considerable extent past high spending and turn the screw even tighter on those authorities whose previous record had been marked by prudence and economy.

If local authorities are to be pronounced guilty by journalists' innuendo I can only hope that the Government will, like Parliament

last week, opt for punishment which is both civilised and appropriate.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. B. NEAME,
County Hall,
 Maidstone, Kent.
July 20.

From Councillor J. Sanders Grose

Sir, Does the inclusion of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames in your correspondent's list of councils destined for government rate-capping (July 19) mean that councils who are real sinners are in danger of knee-capping?

Almost exactly a year ago I visited Mr Heseltine, the then Secretary of State for the Environment, to argue a special case for increasing Richmond's rate support grant. I did not succeed, but he was generous in his praise of financial controls and results which set an excellent example, etc. etc.

Indeed, a week ago it was confirmed to this committee that our expenditure for 1981/82 fell within the Government expenditure guidelines by 2.65 per cent. It was also reported that although the 1982/83 accounts are not finalised the Council's expenditure is almost exactly in line with the Government's provisional effective target.

Members were also informed at the same meeting that 1. Richmond employs the lowest number of staff per 1,000 of population in any London borough, 2. over the last two years overtime working has been reduced by 23.5 per cent hours, 3. rates consistently over the years have been below the average of outer London boroughs.

Is Mr Patrick Jenkin tilting against windmills or has someone got his Richmond in a twist? Yours faithfully,
J. SANDERS GROSE, Chairman,
Policy and Resources Committee,
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.
Members' Room,
Municipal Offices,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.
July 19.

Sentenced for life

From Mr Ewen E. S. Montagu, QC

Sir, Not many people have seen a man who is serving a life-sentence which he believes to be definitely for the whole of the remainder of his life. I have had that awful and unforgettable experience—it was horrifying beyond the imagination of anyone who had not seen it.

It occurred at the naval court-martial of a young sailor charged with having acted as a stool-pigeon while a prisoner of the Germans. The prosecutor called as a witness a young Canadian who had been convicted of giving aid to the Germans and who believed that his life-sentence meant for the whole of the rest of his life and that, having regard to prevailing public opinion, he could never hope to be released. One saw a creature (it was

virtually impossible to think of him as a human being) who was in all real respects dead—although he was still breathing.

I am not contesting the need for very long sentences for brutal murders—or indeed for any brutal violence—even if the Almighty decreed that the victim should not actually die, but everyone should think deeply before advocating what I feel to be the ultimate in cruelty—a sentence which will, by statute, inevitably go on and on with no hope of any relief in this life. It may be that some prisoners could, in the event, never be released, but to enact that they should have no hope would be inhuman.

I am, Sir, etc.
EWEN E. S. MONTAGU,
24 Montrose Court,
Exhibition Road, SW7.
July 18.

Scottish salmon stocks

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist

Sir, On July 20 and 21, 1982, you were good enough to publish two articles by me on the very serious decline of salmon-fishing in Scotland.

Your readers may care to know that the general situation this year is no better and may even be worse. Many people are relying on a repeat performance of the heavy autumn run of grilse which occurred in many rivers last year, but there is little real hope in this direction.

Such a concentration of productive angling in a brief season is unlikely to ensure the continuance of a sport which is not merely enjoyable but economically significant for regions lacking in modern forms of development. A season four weeks long (in pursuit of salmon in what is basically a small and immature form) will not

support the hotels and boarding houses. Could Arsenal survive if they were compelled to play all their matches within four weeks?

Is there a remedy? Yes, though the subject requires fuller treatment than can be given here. It is worth making an effort to save our salmon. Look what the loeanders have done by following three simple lines of approach. The following is an extract from the July issue of *News from Iceland*:

"The number of salmon caught in Iceland's streams and rivers has doubled in just over a decade. The ever-increasing stock of this fine game fish is attributed to three main factors: an extensive breeding programme, a fishing ban in coastal waters, and inland waters that are pollution free."

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
by Lanark.
July 7.

Gardener's options

From Mrs Christine Shorney

Sir, As a new recruit to an allotment this year I hate to put a damper on Mr Lawrence D. Hill's hopes for the unemployed in this direction (July 5).

First of all, to dispel the myth that cheap vegetables are obtainable from an allotment; the only cheap vegetables are those available in the shops, a quote from my father-in-law, retired, and with long experience.

Here are just some of the expenses I have incurred: rent and water, £5.60 for 150 sq yds, or five perches; mushroom compost, £16; fruit trees, seed, fertilizer, £18; sundry tools, £36—at which point I had to get a job to pay for it all.

I have harvested two gooseberry tarts, three lettuce and five radishes; the slugs had the French

beans. But I am persevering, against the long established couch, that is, unpaid hours clocked up would pay for a family cruise.

A large investment in time and money is required to get off the ground from scratch and good vegetables require more than just the supply of seed, which is the least of it. I have not even costed the software.

Having got started, *Tomorrow's World* advised allotment holders in cities that the lead content in our vegetables should be giving us cause for concern. Then the wettest spring in history rotted early sowings and only a tenth of my parsnips have germinated, for which I am truly grateful, if not exultant.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE SHORNEY,
19 Crispin Way,
Kingswood,
Bristol.
July 5.

(Jurisdiction) Order 1980—it will take rather more than adjustment in the law to create over them the English law creatures of freeholds and leaseholds, even if it were concluded that it is possible to create a legal system of landownership when no ownership of the land or the resources in it is vested in the owner.

We do not own the continental shelf, and we do not own the resources in it until they are brought out and saved. All we have is the exclusive right to explore for and exploit those resources. The conveyance to the oil companies would therefore have to be (a) of the Crown's rights, and not of the shelf of the resources in it, and (b) according to the law of Scotland. The petroleum production licence already does this.

3. Professor Denman's last error is his greatest. Whatever method is chosen to grant rights to the oil companies, it will never be com-

pletely secure against unilateral alteration by Parliament. Parliament (with Labour in power) substantially altered, by unilateral action, the rights and obligations of holders of existing petroleum production licences, many of which had decades left to run, in enacting the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act 1975 (Part II), and (with the Conservatives in power) again acted to pass retrospectively active legislation affecting existing licence holders in Section 20 of the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982.

A bipartisan record of unilateral licence alteration having now been established in the UK, no licensee or other holder of rights in the UKCS is completely safe. The error of conception is Professor Denman's.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS P. WINSOR,
60 Peddie Street,
Dundee.
July 18.

Impediments on prisoners' rights

From the Chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform

Sir, In roundly condemning penal reformers you assert that there is no such thing as prisoners' rights, but only a limited obligation on the part of penal administrators to apply minimum standards of accommodation and discipline ("Just deserts", July 15).

You are wrong on two counts. First, the House of Lords has held that a prisoner retains all the rights of the citizen, except those that are specifically taken away by statute: *Raymond v Honey* (1983) AC1. Neither the Prison Act 1952 nor the Prison Rules 1964 (as amended) has authorised, for example, any impairment of the prisoner's rights of unimpeded access to the courts for a remedy against the prison administration.

Second, prison administrators have for some time now acknowledged that the rehabilitative ideology (an outmoded concept of modern penal systems) has been replaced, not by retribution but by the justice model which pays regard to fair and equal treatment for all convicted prisoners, without discrimination. ("Human containment" is the contemporary Prison Department philosophy.)

Nothing conduces more to disturbance of the prison scene than the declared policy of imposing on prisoners—particularly the most disruptive prisoner—a loss of identity in conditions of intolerable overcrowding and with a denial of basic rights of maintained contact with families and friends.

In short, we do ourselves a grave disservice if we do not permit all prisoners to serve out their sentences in tolerable conditions—both physical and psychological—consistent with sound prison administration. Offenders are sent to prison as punishment for crime, and not for punishment.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER, Chairman,
Howard League for Penal Reform,
320-322 Kennington Park Road,
SE11.
July 19.

Rainbow warriors

From Mr Yehudi Menuhin

Sir, Greenpeace, in its intrepid confrontation with the greed of our fellow men, most recently in the USSR, has demonstrated with courage and valour how to build a better world; how to emancipate mankind through responsibility to others, not necessarily of ones own clan or species, and to the uses of freedom.

May their inspiring idealism turn our wrath against the real threats to mankind. They have identified them; those who pass unchallenged, and without respect towards our fellow creatures on this planet—human, animal and vegetable—to wreck our world with their blind greed.

Yours faithfully,
YEHUDI MENUHIN,
2 The Grove,
Higgle Valley, N16.
July 21.

Musical manners

From Mr Gerald Harvey

Sir, Mr Ponsonby's assurance (July 12) that Messrs Boult and Messiaen are really nice, sensitive chaps may be true but it doesn't make their music sound any less dreadful. As for his constant lament of "get to know it and you will learn to like it," I have been trying that for 30 years and it doesn't work, at least only for a very limited number of pieces, and one finds ones ears assaulted without just cause all too often.

The BBC and Mr Ponsonby have a tremendous opportunity in this respect. They have the biggest music machine ever built. No other art form is fed into our very homes as relentlessly as music—not even film. Yet there is little attempt to open our hearts to modern music. In fact, as an educator, Radio 3 is virtually a non-starter. *Music Weekly* is a jewelled island in a dead sea.

Nothing is offered to continue the fascinating tradition of Anthony Hopkins. The recent television films of Respighi were all the more beautiful for the rarity of the genre. The general presentation of modern music is bland and formal, with no attempt in the *Radio Times* to suggest that it might be interesting or special, and with no more than the driest of formal analyses of the works. Impersonally read by an unconvincing announcer and justly forgotten as soon as the noise starts.

Can Mr Ponsonby turn Radio 3 into something alive, a presentation of what is alive, beautiful and necessary to our lives in the musical field? Can he try to show us just what it is that he finds so fascinating about this stuff?

Yours sincerely,
GERALD HARVEY,
8 Briarwood Road,
Clapham Park, SW4.

Relatively speaking

From Mr Felix Barker

Sir, After his article (July 19) Mr Philip Howard, your genial guardian of our grammar, will be relieved to hear that in one place at least the correct use of the personal relative pronoun is maintained.

I am assured that at Boston, in the Ivy League flogging of Harvard, the boys are so well educated that they hoot not "To-whit-to-who" but "To-whit-to-whom".

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
FELIX BARKER,
Watermill House,
Brenenden,
Kent.
July 20.

Soviet 'moles'

From Professor R. C. Flood

Sir, Both as the son of Bernard Flood, MP, and as a professional historian, I should be delighted if the Government were—as Ted Leadbitter, MP, has suggested (report, July 18)—to set up an inquiry into the extent of and the damage done by Soviet influence in public life in Britain in the 1930s and 1940s.

For the last three years, my father has been accused by journalists, spurred on by leaks from within the secret services, of having been a Soviet agent and a recruiter of spies continue, in his youth. He was a communist in his youth, but not a shared of evidence that he gave or intended to give any secret to the Soviet Union, or incited anyone else to do so, has yet been

Investment and Finance

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STOCK EXCHANGES

Reaction of the Lists of the Market and Unit prices has been temporarily suspended because of a printer fault. We apologize for the interruption of our services, which will resume as soon as able.

CARD MEETINGS

AY - Interim: Allied Textiles, Trust, UC Investments, and others.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

DAY - Interim: Allied Textiles, Trust, UC Investments, and others.

World Bank spells out need for more western aid and private investment

Third World 'faces catastrophe' if economic recovery tapers off

By Michael Prest

Developing countries face "catastrophic consequences" if the industrial countries' economic recovery tapers off into a decade of slow growth, the World Bank says in its *World Development Report 1983*.

The report, published today, also says that sustained and reasonably fast economic growth in the rich countries will not be sufficient by itself to generate adequate living standards in poor countries. Much more aid, private capital investment and better economic management by the governments and enterprises of developing countries are equally important.

Yet if the rich countries do not solve their structural problems and the developing countries achieve low growth, the report says it is easy to envisage a downward global economic spiral emerging, with catastrophic consequences for the developing countries.

The bank's economists believe that despite the heavy debts of the Third World, commercial banks are not fundamentally threatened.

"That the international banking system will weather the present crisis is not in doubt, considering the small fraction (about 6 per cent) of banks' assets represented by their claims on developing countries."

However, some banks may suffer from their exposure to the difficulties in the greatest financial bank lending to developing countries will decline. At the same time, official development assistance (ODA) - aid and cheap loans - is unlikely to rise above the present average of

about 0.35 per cent of rich countries' gross domestic product - half the target.

The report argues that the present policy of developing countries to finance growth through borrowing will be further reduced by the likelihood that interest rates between 1982 and 1995, (the end of the period being analysed) will average a real 3 per cent. Slow growth of industrial countries' trade will be yet another brake.

So, it concludes, "The strong implication of this analysis is that ODA as currently planned

falls far short of the needs of the developing countries, especially of the low-income countries, if world poverty is to be seriously tackled."

Although the report is gloomy about the attitude prevailing in rich countries and about the avility of their governments to solve structural difficulties such as unemployment and how to achieve expansion without inflation, it emphasizes the need for developing countries to be part of the solution.

The report says: "A deter-

mined effort to resume the liberalization of trade, prudent but dynamic international lending policies, and more generous aid need not await the resumption of fast global economic growth; on the contrary, they are necessary to bring it about."

Making assumptions about the policies that industrial countries are likely to follow, the bank's economists outline three scenarios for growth. In the central case, the gdp of all developing countries is projected to grow by an average 5.5 per cent a year between 1985 and 1995.

Low-income countries would experience 4.9 per cent growth and the industrial countries 3.7. It is recognized, however, that some of the assumptions underlying these projections are optimistic. The low case - which presupposes that rich countries do not solve their structural problems - projects only 4.5 per cent growth for the poor countries. Moreover, Africa may expand at only half that rate.

There could be a downward economic spiral.

Finance ministers' task force meets

Top Commonwealth finance ministers and economists begin a three-day meeting in London today to put the finishing touches to a report on the international financial and trading system, including proposals for more stable exchange rates and ways of protecting Third World countries from the worst consequences of global deflation.

The report is the work of a

nine-member task force set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat after the annual meeting of Commonwealth finance ministers in London last September at which Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, proposed an international monetary conference, a suggestion subsequently taken up by M. Francois Mitterrand, Helmsman of Toronto University, the group includes Sir Jeremy

Clark, chairman of Lloyds Bank and Dr I G Patel, former governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

Commonwealth finance ministers will consider the report when they meet again in Trinidad in September, before going on to the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in Washington where many of the

UK demands higher steel quota

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, today demands that his European counterparts agree to Britain having a larger production quota under the EEC steel crisis measures.

Mr Parkinson has already told EEC ministers that he would not countenance another major steel mill closure in the UK. He will tell them today in Brussels that the significant improvements in competitiveness made in the British industry now call for Britain's quotas to be extended, particularly as the UK market is showing signs of greater improvement than in the rest of Europe.

Today's quotas, part of the EEC-wide crisis programme for steel, were imposed in 1980 and came up for review at the end of



Parkinson: call to recognize Britain's improvement

June. Ministers agreed in Luxembourg to a month's extension after the European Commission's complaints that sufficient cuts in excess steel

capacity had not been made and that an extension of the quota system for two and a half years was necessary.

The Italians pose the biggest problem for the European Commission, having consistently refused to decrease production or capacity during the recession. Between 1978 and 1982, Britain cut its steel workforce by almost 60 per cent, the French by 20 per cent and the West Germans by 17 per cent. Italian producers, however, have cut their workforce by just over 4 per cent and have registered a slight increase in output.

The commission has asked Italy to cut by 3.83 million tonnes its steel production capacity as part of an overall 26.7 million-tonne cut throughout the Community.

Italy has said it will cut back by only 2.4 million tonnes

Banker in Asian loans affair killed

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

The murder of a senior Malaysian banker in Hongkong last week has added a fresh twist to the government-owned Bank Bumiputra's attempt to repay more than HK\$1,000m (£90.5m) in loans to Carrian Investments, EDA Investments and the companies controlled by Mr Kevin Hsu.

Mr Jai Ibrahim, aged 35, the assistant general manager of Bumiputra Malaysia Finance (BMF), the bank's Hongkong subsidiary, cashed a HK\$50,000 (£4,545) cheque and left the office last Monday to meet someone. His body was found in a banana plantation late the next day. Apparently he had been tortured.

Even the most astute bankers have yet to find out who the shareholders of Carrian Holdings are, all of whom are said to be hiding behind Liberian, Panamanian and Swiss nominee companies. There have been suggestions that they are fronting for Malaysian politicians and businessmen, but this has never been proved.

The problems of BMF and its parent, Bank Bumiputra, have developed into a struggle between the press and the bank, which insists that it could not reveal any information about its clients without breaching confidentiality.

The bank's chairman, Dr

Nawawi Mat Amin, has submitted a confidential report on the bank's position to Datuk Seri O Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister. One senior official insists that BMF's position in Hongkong is much better than had been reported. But it would be another year before that statement could be proved or disproved.

Some sources say that Mr Kevin Hsu is trying to restructure his loans.

Carrian Investments, the quoted subsidiary of Carrian Holdings, under Mr George Tan, a Malaysian engineer who is a former bankrupt, became the high flier in the Hongkong property market. Bankers were falling over each other to lend money for little or no security.

BMF was one of nearly 100 banks and finance companies that had lent money to these three companies.

While the press here and in Hongkong has sharpened its attacks on Bank Bumiputra for its loan policies, the bank officials themselves seem certain that the losses are not as high as had been reported. The bank had moved against EDA Investments and its chairman, Mr C M Chung, who has disappeared from the colony and is believed to be in Taiwan.

Go-ahead likely for freeports

By John Lawless

The Government is this week expected to give the go-ahead for freeports in Britain.

The Institute of Directors, which was represented on the Treasury working party that reported to then Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe, last year, said on Friday that it expected a "massive" number of applications to be made for the right to establish freeports.

These are widely used abroad, particularly in the United States. They allow manufacturers to set up plants within strictly controlled zones and to process imported goods without having to pay customs and excise duties.

The duties are then applied only to those products which come into the United Kingdom market, giving firms a considerable cost benefit.

There were fears that the proposal had been lost because of the general election. But the Institute of Directors said that next week's criteria for freeports will probably contain a deadline of October for applications.

The proposal could then become part of next year's Finance Bill, and some freeports could be in operation by the middle of next year.

The Government is known to favour the establishment of two or three experimental zones. Probably candidates to join Rotterdam, Europe's best known freeport, include Felixstowe, Belfast, Manchester, Ringway and Prestwick airports.

Most are likely to be located at coastal ports.

£100m loss feared at British Shipbuilders

By Our Industrial Correspondent

British Shipbuilders, parts of which are high on the Government's privatization list, will announce this week 1982-83 losses of between £70m and £100m.

Sir Robert Atkinson, chairman, who is soon to retire, is certain to take the opportunity to stress the corporation's financial plight and the need for an emergency package of measures - costing £200m and 8,500 jobs - to give the crisis-stricken merchant shipbuilding division a chance of surviving.

Losses increased steadily throughout the corporation's financial year and the second half figure will prove to have been substantially in excess of the £28m deficit recorded in the first six months. Ministers have been shaken by the prospect of the year's losses reaching £100m - ten times more than the

corporation's government-imposed limit.

Sir Robert's survival plan includes an almost total freeze on capital investment this year, a new emphasis on achieving greater productivity and the possible closure of two shipyards. Crisis measures are needed, he argues, to cope with the deterioration of world demand and the alleged curative activities of Far East shipbuilders.

The Government, however, appears to be reluctant to take action on a short-term basis to save British Shipbuilders and believes that the situation needs a newly drawn long-term strategy. The basis of this is the belief that two elements of the country's nationalized shipbuilding industry - warship production and ship repair - are prime candidates for living off

the profits of the other.

Lazard starts bonds fund

Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, is launching the first quoted multi-currency offshore fund to specialize in deep discount bonds.

Lazard says most of the return on bond investments is in the form of income but that substantial capital gains can be made by buying deep discount bonds.

Its Diversified Bond Fund will offer shares in two forms, income or accumulation. The accumulation shares will keep the dividends from the bonds and capital gains in the Cayman Islands, where the fund is registered.

There is no income but British investors should be able only for capital gains tax when they sell. Holders of the income shares in Britain will be liable for income or corporation tax.

The fund's portfolio will be concentrated in prime quality bonds in currencies like the dollar, yen, Swiss franc and German mark.

Lazard expects the fund to appeal to private investors prepared to take some risk. The offer for sale is for 25 million shares at \$10 with a minimum subscription of 100 shares.

"Now it is suddenly being imposed retrospectively."

Midland cash call expected

By Our Financial Staff

Midland Bank could announce a £150m call for cash from shareholders with its half time results on Wednesday.

This emerged in a study of the banking sector by Mr Keith Reynolds and Mr Anthony Munns, of de Zoete & Bevan, the stockbrokers.

The bank needs the cash to improve its balance-sheet, which still shows a capital adequacy figure below the average of the other three leading banks.

The de Zoete study covers Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster, the Bank of Scotland, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Standard Chartered. It estimates that provision against bad debt at home last year rose much more than that made by the big four banks in case of a default on international debts.

Figures show 1982 domestic bad debt provision rising from £114m to £336m.

"What makes it all so ridiculous is that we were examined by Customs and Excise three years ago and declared not liable for VAT. We were recommended just a year ago, with the same conclusion."

Mr Kenneth Brooks, managing director of Mack Brooks, one of Britain's most important exhibition organizers, said: "The decision is ludicrous. The Customs and Excise is applying the law in a stupid way."

The sums involved are considerable. It would not be untypical for one of our shows overseas to involve space rented at £1,250,000 - of which the FFB might well be taking anything from 10 to 20 per cent.

John Lawless

City Editor's Comment

Survival test on the Stock Exchange

The rule-book debate behind closed doors on the Stock Exchange is about survival - which firms will, and in what form.

The Government has decided to call off the Office of Fair Trading court action over the Exchange's rule book. It is now up to the Exchange to offer proposals which would settle the OFT action outside the restrictive practices court.

The OFT says that parts of the rule book are restrictive because it lays down minimum commission charges, restricts membership and says that a firm can act as either a broker or a jobber, but not as both.

Concessions on some of these points must be made this week, and the decision could mean life or death for some.

Forward-thinking stockbrokers have anticipated change. The result, it is whispered is that the top ten, are already geared to dual capacity. Yet this is one point on which the Exchange is unlikely to offer any concessions.

The real survival test will come for the small and medium-sized brokers, whose voice on the Exchange's ruling council is limited.

They often do not have the spread of business, the research teams, and the lucrative business from government securities and from the large share deals of the big financial institutions.

The introduction of negotiated commissions would clearly put them under pressure. The American experience of a price war would likely be replayed in London and only the big broking firms could be counted upon to emerge intact from such a battle.

The proposal relaxing conditions of entry to allow American brokers to compete shoulder to shoulder through the Exchange would make things worse for them.

Members of small firms might be able to stage a small rearguard action. For, although the Exchange council is allowed to change the rules, officials are unclear whether a change in the conditions of entry

needs a reference to the whole membership.

This week, Sir Nicholas Goodison, Stock Exchange chairman, will disclose the terms of the out-of-court settlement to Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

They must be much more than mere cosmetic changes but should appreciate that slow change is likely to leave fewer scars.

Breathing space for US

Britain and America are making determined efforts to heal their transatlantic rifts. But are the gaps really being plugged? Or is a diplomatic wallpaper being pasted over them?

Meanwhile, business decisions are being made which will have a far greater impact on Anglo-American relations.

When the US Export Administration Act is renewed this autumn, it will run for five years. Mr William Nicholas, director of the London chamber of commerce, who this month put British industry's case to the US Congress, says that British companies have already warned him that they do not want to be tied in to American supplies of goods and technologies.

Concessions made to Europe in the new Act, they insist, will be in too small print to matter.

Washington is in a catching-up process with its international trade laws. "The rules are well-established in Europe but the US, in a typically brusque style, has been putting its own in place" explained an American cooperative law specialist.

Mr William Brock, the US Special Trade Representative, is understood to have told Mr Parkinson that "there really has to be a better way of dealing with these issues" and to have conceded that America had not got its relations right with Europe.

If Britain is allowing the US time to put things right, then the breathing space, for everybody's sake, had better not last too long.

This advertisement does not constitute an invitation to subscribe to the fund; subscription may be made only on the basis of the Memorandum describing the fund.

THE GUINNESS MAHON BUSINESS EXPANSION FUND

CLOSES 29th JULY 1983

A fund approved by the Inland Revenue under the terms of the Finance Act 1983, giving tax relief for eligible investors in unquoted UK companies.

The fund is the first to be launched by a Merchant Bank under the new legislation, and aims to provide:

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2. A chance to obtain a high after tax return from the fund by benefiting from the 100% tax relief on the whole amount of participation by qualifying UK investors - up to £40,000 in the current tax year.
3. Professional management experience gained with funds launched under earlier legislation.

* It should be noted that there are high risks involved in investment in young companies as well as a chance of high rewards.

Subscription to the Fund will be limited to £2½ million, or £5 million in exceptional circumstances. In the event of over-subscription, applications will be dealt with in strict order of receipt. The minimum subscription for each investor is £5,000, the maximum £40,000.

You are invited to send in for a copy of the Memorandum describing the Fund by returning the coupon.

NOTE: Before deciding to proceed with subscription to the Fund, you are advised to seek advice from your accountant, solicitor, stockbroker, bank manager or other professional adviser.

Guinness Mahon Business Expansion Fund
To: Guinness Mahon & Co. Limited, 42 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 4AJ
Please send me a copy of the Memorandum describing the fund and an application form.



This document includes particulars given in compliance with the Regulations of the Council of The Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to The Diversified Bond Fund Limited ("the Fund"). The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares of 1 cent (US) each in the capital of the Fund ("Participating Shares") are offered on the basis of the information and representations contained in this document. All other information given or representations made by any person must be regarded as unauthorised.

The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein whether of fact or opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

A copy of this prospectus, having attached thereto copies of the Contracts and the Auditors' Consent referred to respectively in paragraphs 6 and 9 of Appendix D, has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in England and Wales for registration.

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for all the Participating Shares, issued and available to be issued, to be admitted to the Official List.

The consent of the Finance and Economics Committee of the States of Jersey under the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Order 1958 (as amended) has been obtained for the issue of up to 25,000,000 Participating Shares. It must be distinctly understood that in giving this consent the Finance and Economics Committee does not take any responsibility for the financial soundness of any schemes or for the correctness of any of the statements made or opinions expressed with regard to them.

The distribution of this prospectus and the offering of Participating Shares may be restricted in certain jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of any person in possession of this prospectus and any person wishing to make applications for Participating Shares pursuant to this prospectus to inform themselves of and to observe all applicable laws and regulations of any relevant jurisdiction.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorised or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. In particular, the Participating Shares have not been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 and, except in a placement by the Fund that does not involve a public offering, may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold in the United States or for the benefit of United States persons, or to others purchasing the Participating Shares for re-offering, re-sale or delivery directly or indirectly in the United States, or any of the benefits of any such persons. No application for any Participating Shares pursuant to the offer contained in this prospectus will be accepted from any person who is unable to make a declaration stating that such person is not a US person and that, upon the registration of such shares in the relevant state or states, no US person will be interested in such shares.

For the purposes of this prospectus and the accompanying Application Form, "United States" means the United States of America, each state thereof, its territories and possessions and all areas subject to its jurisdiction; and "US person" means a citizen or resident of the United States, a partnership or corporation created or organised in the United States or under the laws of the United States or its estate or trust (other than an estate or trust the income of which from sources outside the United States is not effectively connected with the conduct of trade or business within the United States and is not included for purposes of computing United States federal income tax).

This prospectus shall not constitute an invitation to the public in the Cayman Islands to subscribe for any of the Participating Shares.

Statements made in this prospectus are based on the law and practice currently in force in the Cayman Islands, the United Kingdom and Jersey, and are subject to changes therein.

21 July 1983

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited

(An exempted company incorporated with limited liability on 14 July 1983 under the provisions of the Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands)

Offer for subscription of up to 25,000,000 Participating Redeemable Preference Shares of 1 cent (US) each at US \$10 per share payable in full on application.

The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares

Share Capital

Authorised		Nominal
10,000	Management Shares of US \$1 each	US \$10,000
29,000,000	*Unclassified Shares of US 1 cent each	US \$290,000
		US \$300,000
Issued, or now being offered		Total (including premium)
1,000	Management Shares of US \$1 each	US \$1,000
25,000,000	Unclassified Shares of US 1 cent each to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares	US \$250,000,000

*Unclassified Shares may be issued as Participating Redeemable Preference Shares or as Nominal Shares. The Participating Redeemable Preference Shares may be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares. The Nominal Shares may only be issued at par for the purposes of providing funds for the repayment of the nominal amount of any Participating Shares redeemed. Further details are set out in Appendix A below.

Indebtedness. At the close of business on 20 July 1983 the Fund did not have any debentures, loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued nor any other borrowings, mortgages, charges or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, hire-purchase commitments, guarantees or any other material contingent liabilities.

Issue of Participating Shares. Offer for subscription of up to 25,000,000 Participating Shares of 1 cent (US) each at US \$10 per share payable in full on application. The Participating Shares are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares.

The subscription lists for the Participating Shares offered will open at 10.00 am on 3 August 1983 and will close not later than 3.30 pm on the same day. For information as to how to subscribe, see Procedure for Subscription.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer or invitation in respect of Participating Shares at any time after 3 August 1983.

In the event that the amount raised by the issue of Participating Shares pursuant to this offer is less than US \$1,000,000 (see paragraph 8 of Appendix D) all application monies will be returned to applicants at their risk and will be posted not later than 10 August 1983.

Directors

Christopher Brunton Melluish (Chairman)
Thundridge Hill, Ware, Hertfordshire,
United Kingdom.

(Director, Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited)

Dr. Roberto Ramon Aleman
Golf Heights, City of Panama,
Republic of Panama.

(Partner, Icaza, Gonzalez-Ruiz & Aleman)

Walter Albert Eberstadt
1035 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10028,
United States of America.
(General Partner, Lazard Freres & Co., (New York))

Peter Timothy Hart
Le Tapis, Clos Royale, Grouville, Jersey,
Channel Islands.
(Manager/Secretary, Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited)

Thorleif Monsen
Lyford Cay, New Providence, Bahamas.
(President, Aall & Company Limited Inc. (George
Town, Grand Cayman))

Eric John Sainsbury

Kenton, Harrington Sound Road, Smiths Parish,
Bermuda.

(Managing Director, Argus Insurance Company
Limited (Bermuda))

Alan Charles Wrigley
Mantles Green Cottage, Hyde Heath,
Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom.
(Director, Lazard Securities Limited)

Administration

Registered Office
The Aall Building, North Church Street,
Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

Manager
Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited,
2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.
Telephone: Jersey (0534) 37361 Telex: 4192154

Secretary and Registrar
Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.,
The Aall Building, North Church Street.

Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

Telephone: Grand Cayman 94355 Telex: 4303 CP

Investment Adviser

Lazard Securities Limited,
21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT,
United Kingdom.

Custodian

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York
(Jersey Branch), Queensway House,
Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Joint Auditors

In the Cayman Islands:
Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants
Cayman International Trust Building,
PO Box 219, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

In Jersey:

Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants
La Motte Chambers, St. Helier, Jersey,
Channel Islands.

Bankers

Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,
2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey,
Channel Islands.

Stockbrokers

Cazenove & Co.,
12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN,
United Kingdom and The Stock Exchange.

Legal Advisers

In the Cayman Islands:
Maples and Calder, Attorneys at Law
Cayman International Trust Building,
PO Box 309, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands,
British West Indies.

In England:

Freshfields, Solicitors
Grindall House, 25 Newgate Street,
London EC1A 7LH, United Kingdom.

In Jersey:

Michael Voisin & Co., Advocates
PO Box 31, Templar House, Don Road,
St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Objectives of the Fund

The Fund was incorporated with limited liability on 14 July 1983 under the provisions of the Companies Law, Cap. 22 as amended of the Cayman Islands. It will operate in a similar way to a unit trust in that each week it may issue and redeem Participating Shares at prices based on the Fund's underlying net asset value. The Fund's share capital is described in Appendix A.

This prospectus relates to the initial offer of 25,000,000 Participating Shares in the Fund at US \$10 per Participating Share.

The Fund aims to provide investors with a professionally managed portfolio of fixed interest securities and securities issued at a discount in the international capital markets, denominated in US dollars, deutschmarks, Dutch guilders, pounds sterling, Swiss francs, French francs, Japanese yen, Canadian dollars and Norwegian kroner.

It is in the nature of bond investment that a large part of the return generally arises as income. But the Directors believe that there are significant investment opportunities in purchasing deep discount bonds and notes where substantial capital gains (including the discount) may arise. Accordingly, the Fund may include a large proportion of deep discount bonds and notes in its portfolio, thus giving rise to capital gains (including discounts) rather than income. In current conditions it is expected that the Fund's portfolio would earn an income yield of approximately 5 per cent per annum.

Investment Policy

A large proportion of the bonds in the Fund's portfolio is likely to consist of eurocurrency instruments together with bonds issued in those countries where no tax is withheld at source on interest and zero or low coupon bonds. It will be the Directors' intention to concentrate the portfolio on prime quality issues, in order to maintain a high degree of marketability. The Fund will make a reasonable spread of investments and its Articles of Association contain certain restrictions on the Fund's investment policy, including a provision that, at the time of acquisition, the value of the Fund's interest in any investment shall not exceed 15 per cent of

the value of the Fund's total investments; further details of the restrictions will be found in paragraph 15 of Appendix D.

Those of the Fund's assets not committed to the longer term markets may be held either as cash on deposit, invested in short-term negotiable securities such as certificates of deposit, bank acceptances and treasury bills, or invested in floating rate instruments on which the rate of interest is periodically reviewed. The Directors will seek to protect the capital value of the Fund by shortening the average maturity of the investments in periods of rising interest rates. Therefore, the proportion of the assets of the Fund held in cash and short-term instruments may be considerable and may vary from time to time according to the Directors' views of the likely movements in interest rates.

The anticipated movement of foreign exchange values is an important part of investment decisions both in selecting long-term securities and in choosing currencies in which to hold funds. However, active dealings in the foreign exchange markets are not contemplated.

Directors of the Fund

Christopher Brunton Melluish (Chairman) (aged 47), is a Director of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited and Joint Managing Director of Lazard Securities Limited. He is also a Director of MGM Assurance Limited.

Roberto Ramon Aleman (aged 61) is a partner of the law firm of Icaza, Gonzalez-Ruiz & Aleman, City of Panama, Republic of Panama. He is a Director of Unilac Inc., and has served his country as Ambassador of Panama to the United States of America and as a Member of the Constitution Revision Commission.

Walter Albert Eberstadt (aged 62) is a general partner of Lazard Freres and Co., One Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020, United States of America. In addition, he is a Director of Transocean Holding Corporation and a Member of the International Capital Markets Committee of the New York Stock Exchange.

Peter Timothy Hart (aged 31) is a manager of and secretary of Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited.

Thorleif Monsen (aged 73) is President of Aall & Company Limited Inc. In addition, he is President of Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd. and a Director of a number of other private companies.

Eric John Sainsbury (aged 50) is Managing Director of Argus Insurance Company Limited, Bermuda, and each of its subsidiaries. He is also a Director of a number of Bermuda Exempted Companies.

Alan Charles Wrigley (aged 37) is a Director of Lazard Securities Limited. In addition, he is a Director of Aall Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.

Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares

The Participating Shares offered for subscription are available to be issued as Participating Income Shares or as Participating Accumulation Shares. The two classes carry the same rights except in the following respects. The Participating Income Shares carry a right to dividends. The Participating Accumulation Shares carry no right to dividends. Instead, they carry a right to an increased share in the underlying assets of the Fund.

On each Valuation Day a calculation is carried out to determine the proportion of the Fund's assets attributable to the Participating Income Shares and the Participating Accumulation Shares, taking into account any dividends paid to the holders of the Participating Income Shares and alterations in the numbers of shares in issue of each class. This apportionment then forms the basis for calculating the subscription and redemption prices of the two classes of shares and their respective rights to surplus assets on a winding-up. For further details see Appendix A.

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The Diversified Bond Fund Limited — continued

Dividend Policy

Every year the Directors will determine the amount of income available for distribution for meeting management, secretarial, custodian and other expenses. This amount will be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and the Participating Accumulation Shares on the basis of the apportionment of the underlying assets of the Fund between these two classes of shares.

Substantially all of the amount apportioned to the Participating Income Shares will be distributed to holders of Participating Income Shares by way of half-yearly dividends.

Receipts of the Fund arising in the form of gains on the sale or redemption of securities, including any discounts on securities originally issued at a discount, will not be treated as income.

Dividends will be paid without deduction of tax in the Cayman Islands. The first such dividend will be paid to holders of Participating Income Shares on the register on 30 January 1984.

In current conditions, it is expected that the Fund's portfolio would earn an income yield of approximately 5 per cent. per annum. Recurrent expenses are estimated at 1 per cent. per annum of the value of the Fund, leaving about 4 per cent. per annum to be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares.

Procedure for Subscription

Application should be made on the application form provided and must be for a minimum of 100 Participating Shares.

Each application must be accompanied either by a separate United States dollar cheque or bank's draft for the full amount payable on application. The application should be sent to:

Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,

PO Box 108, 2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

as to arrive not later than 10.00 am on 3 August 1983. Cheques should be made payable to Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited.

On completion and delivery of the application form accompanied by a cheque will constitute legally enforceable promise that the cheque will be honoured on first presentation. The Fund reserves the right to reject any application in whole or in part in which event the application monies or any balance thereof will be posted to the applicant at his own risk not later than 8 August 1983. Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates for Participating Shares issued will be posted at the applicant's risk not later than 31 August 1983.

Acceptance of applications will be conditional on the Council of The Stock Exchange admitting to the Official List on or before 3 August 1983 the Participating Shares issued and available to be issued. Monies paid in respect of all applications will be returned if such listing is not obtained on or before that date.

Copies of this prospectus, incorporating the application form, may be obtained from:

Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited,

21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT, United Kingdom.

Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited,

PO Box 108, 2-6 Church Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

All Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd.,

The Aall Building, North Church Street, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.

British West Indies.

Management and Administration

The Manager

Lazard Securities (Jersey) Limited ("LSJ") will act as manager of the Fund. As manager LSJ will be responsible to the Directors for managing the business of the Fund. LSJ may be authorised by the Fund in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to hold the assets of the Fund on trust for the benefit of the Fund's creditors and shareholders rather than to the order of the Fund (see Appendix A).

LSJ is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., (Jersey) Limited which is a registered Jersey bank and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, a major London Accepting House. LSJ manages Lazard Brothers International Income Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers Sterling Reserve Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers International Capital Fund (Cayman) Limited, Lazard Brothers International Asset Fund Limited, The Capital Growth Bond Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers Far Eastern Fund Limited, Lazard Brothers North American Fund Limited and other portfolios, which together have total investments whose value exceeds US \$465 million.

Secretary and Registrar

All Trust & Banking Corporation Ltd. ("ATB") will act as the secretary and registrar of the Fund. ATB is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aall & Company Limited Inc., one of the world's largest ship brokers. ATB is a bank licensed and registered under the laws of the Cayman Islands which provides trust, investment and banking services.

Under the provisions of an existing management agreement made between Aall & Company Limited Inc. and Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited provides technical assistance to ATB and two directors to the board of ATB and is entitled to receive a share of the earnings of ATB.

Investment Adviser

Lazard Securities Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, has been appointed investment adviser to LSJ and will provide investment policy guidance and advice.

Lazard Securities Limited is responsible for providing all the investment, management and advisory services offered by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited. It manages worldwide investments totalling approximately US \$3½ billion for UK and overseas clients, and has considerable experience in the eurobond and other fixed interest markets.

Custodian

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Jersey Branch ("MGT") will act as custodian of the Fund. All of the assets of the Fund will be held by MGT or to its order. MGT may appoint sub-custodians, nominees and agents to perform its duties or discretions provided that MGT remains liable for any acts or omissions of, or loss directly or indirectly caused by, any such persons. Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited will act as nominee of MGT to hold certain of the Fund's investments to the order of the custodian.

LSJ, ATB, Lazard Securities Limited and MGT were appointed under the agreements referred to in paragraph 6 of Appendix D.

Charges and Fees

LSJ In respect of its services as manager LSJ will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a three-hundredths part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund as at each Valuation Day during the relevant quarter (which valuation will be calculated in accordance with the provisions in the Articles of Association for determining the subscription price of Participating Shares).

LSJ will make no initial charge to investors in respect of Participating Shares to be allotted on 8 August 1983 but on subsequent issues it may retain for its own benefit an initial charge of up to three per cent. of the subscription price of the Participating Shares plus the amount necessary to round up the subscription price of each Participating Share to the nearest whole cent.

In secondary market transactions members of the Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited group ("the Lazard group") will make no charges, commission or dealing profit on transactions with the Fund. Where any member of the Lazard group participates in the underwriting and/or placement of new issues of securities and subsequently such securities are sold to the Fund by any member of the Lazard group, any placement discounts earned in respect of the placement of the issue will generally be passed on to the Fund, but any underwriting fees will generally be retained by the relevant member of the Lazard group.

The investment adviser, Lazard Securities Limited, will receive fees. Those will not be borne by the Fund but will be paid by LSJ out of its own fees.

ATB

ATB will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a one thirty-second part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund (calculated as in the case of LSJ's fee). This fee will be reduced, on a sliding scale, where the average of the net asset values of the Fund exceeds US \$40 million. On the first US \$10 million in excess of US \$40 million, the percentage calculation of ATB's quarterly fee will be reduced by one-half (to a one sixtieth part of one per cent.). On the next US \$10 million of any excess the percentage calculation will be further reduced to a one one-hundred-and-twenty-eighth part of one per cent. On any excess over US \$60 million the percentage calculation of ATB's fee will be reduced to a one two-hundred-and-fifty-sixth part of one per cent.

MGT

In respect of its services as custodian MGT will receive from the Fund a quarterly fee of a one thirty-second part of one per cent. of the average of the values of the net assets of the Fund (calculated as in the case of LSJ's fee). This fee will be reduced on a sliding scale where the average of the net asset values exceeds US \$40 million (in the same manner as ATB's fee). MGT will meet any expenses or fees of its sub-custodians, nominees and agents, including Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, out of its remuneration.

Other Expenses

The Fund will be responsible for certain expenses as specified in the registrar and secretarial, and management agreements such as audit fees, stamp and other duties and charges custodian and management agreements such as investments. In addition, the Fund will pay its incurred on the acquisition and realisation of investments with the initial issue of Participating Shares formation expenses and all expenses in connection with the initial issue of Participating Shares and the obtaining of the listing of the Participating Shares on The Stock Exchange (other than those specified in paragraph 2 of Appendix D) these expenses being amortised over a period of five years from the dates on which they were incurred. LSJ, ATB and MGT will meet all other expenses incurred by them in connection with their services.

Taxation

Application has been made to the Governor-in-Council of the Cayman Islands for an undertaking that the Fund will not be chargeable to tax in the Cayman Islands on its income or its capital gains arising in the Cayman Islands or elsewhere for a period of twenty years. Dividends of the Fund will be payable without deduction of tax to shareholders resident in or outside the Cayman Islands. No stamp duty is levied in the Cayman Islands on the transfer or redemption of Participating Shares in the Fund. The only tax which will be chargeable on the Fund in the Cayman Islands is an annual charge calculated on the nominal amount of the Fund in the Cayman Islands which, at current rates, will not exceed approximately US \$1,465 in any year.

It is intended that the Fund will not be resident in the United Kingdom for taxation purposes. The Jersey Comptroller of Income Tax has confirmed that he is satisfied that the proposed manner of management and control of the Fund, and the performance by LSJ of its duties under the management agreement, are such that the Fund will not be or become liable to tax in Jersey.

The investments of the Fund will be made in such a way as to seek to minimise tax of other countries deductible at source or withheld from any income or capital receipts of the Fund on its investments.

Investors in the United Kingdom

Holders of Participating Shares who are resident in the United Kingdom for tax purposes will, depending on their individual circumstances, be liable to United Kingdom income tax or corporation tax on dividends paid by the Fund. Holders (other than those holding shares as defined stock who are subject to different rules), who are resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, may be liable to United Kingdom capital gains tax or corporation tax in respect of gains arising from the disposal or redemption of Participating Shares.

Clearance under section 464 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 (cancellation of the advantages from certain transactions in securities) has been given by the United Kingdom Board of Inland Revenue in relation to (inter alia):

- the issue of the Unclassified Shares of the Fund as Participating Shares or as Nominal Shares;
- the subsequent redemption by the Fund of Participating Shares and Nominal Shares.

The attention of individuals ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom is drawn to section 478 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, as amended, and to section 45 of the Finance Act 1981 which may, in certain circumstances, render them liable to United Kingdom income tax in respect of income of the Fund.

The first United Kingdom Finance Bill of 1983 (as originally introduced) contained provisions concerning the taxation of international business. The present government has indicated that those provisions will not be introduced before 1984. If provisions of the same or similar nature eventually become law, companies resident for tax purposes in the United Kingdom having a sufficient interest in the Fund could in certain circumstances be chargeable to United Kingdom corporation tax in respect of the Fund's income.

Investors in Jersey

The attention of Jersey residents is drawn to Article 134A of the Income Tax (Jersey) Law, 1961, which may render a shareholder so resident liable to income tax on undistributed income and profits of the Fund. The Fund has undertaken to deduct Jersey income tax at source from any dividends paid to Jersey residents and to account for such tax to the Comptroller of Income Tax in Jersey.

The foregoing is based on the law and practice currently in force in the Cayman Islands, the United Kingdom and Jersey, and is subject to changes therein. However, investors in any jurisdiction should consult their professional advisers on the possible tax, exchange control or other consequences of buying, holding, selling or redeeming Participating Shares under the laws of their country of citizenship, residence or domicile.

Redemption of Participating Shares

Participating Shares may, except where there is a suspension of the valuation of assets (see below), be redeemed on any Subscription Day at the redemption price. LSJ may elect to purchase at a price not less than the redemption price any Participating Shares presented for redemption. The redemption price per Participating Share is determined in accordance with the Articles of Association. In summary, it is determined by assessing the value of the net assets of the Fund on the relevant Valuation Day, deducting the paid-up capital on Nominal and Management Shares in issue and a provision for duties and charges payable on a deemed realisation of the whole of the Fund's portfolio, ascertaining the proportion of that amount that is attributable to each class of Participating Share, and dividing the amount of the respective proportions so ascertained by the total number of Participating Shares of the relevant class in issue and deemed to be in issue. The resulting figure is adjusted downwards to the nearest whole cent (the amount necessary to effect such downward adjustment being payable to LSJ for its absolute use and benefit).

To redeem all or part of his holding, a shareholder should complete the form on the back of each share certificate and send the certificate to LSJ. In order to qualify for redemption on a particular Subscription Day, instructions should be received not later than 3.30 pm on the immediately preceding business day. Requests for redemption received late may be held over until the next Subscription Day.

Requests for redemption once made may be withdrawn only in the event of a suspension of the valuation of the Fund's assets.

Any amount payable to a shareholder in connection with requests for redemption will be paid by dollar cheque and will be posted to the shareholder (or for amounts in excess of US \$20,000 cabled or teleaxed to a bank at the shareholder's request and expense) within five business days after the later of the date on which the redemption (or purchase) takes effect and the date of receipt of a duly endorsed certificate for the Shares to be redeemed or purchased.

The Fund shall not be bound to redeem on any one Subscription Day more than one-eighth of the total number of Participating Shares then in issue.

If at any time after the fifth anniversary of the incorporation of the Fund the value of the Fund's net assets shall, on each Subscription Day within a period of 26 consecutive weeks, be less than US \$1,000,000 the Fund may redeem all the Participating Shares then in issue at the ruling redemption price.

Accounts and Reports

The Fund's first financial period will end on the last Valuation Day in July 1984. Subsequent financial periods will end on the last Valuation Day in July of each succeeding year. Copies of the audited accounts of the Fund for a financial period will be sent to shareholders at their registered address normally during the following September. Shareholders will also be sent half-yearly reports relating to the Fund normally during March in each year.

Subscription and Valuation Days

Subscription Days will normally be every Wednesday, or if that day is not a business day the next following business day, or such other day as may from time to time be determined by the Directors. The first Subscription Day after the initial issue of Participating Shares will be 10 August 1983.

After the initial issue, the net assets of the Fund will be valued on each Valuation Day which will normally be the business day immediately preceding the day before each Subscription Day. However, the Directors may suspend valuation if, in their opinion, it is not reasonably practicable for the Fund to dispose of investments or fairly to determine the value of net assets, or if a breakdown occurs in any of the means normally employed to ascertain such value.

Valuations

The Articles of Association provide that eurobonds are generally to be valued at prices quoted at noon on the day before the relevant Valuation Day in the over-the-counter market in London, and quoted securities generally at closing market prices on the day before the relevant Valuation Day. The market value of treasury bills, bank acceptances, trade bills and certificates of deposit will be determined at noon on the relevant Valuation Day. Other unquoted investments will be valued at Directors' valuation, including any discount which the Directors think appropriate to reflect their true current value. All valuations of interest-bearing assets will include interest accruing up to the Valuation Day in question.

Underlying Companies

The Articles of Association of the Fund allow it to hold investments through the medium of one or more companies, trusts or other legal entities (termed "underlying companies") which would be wholly owned by the Fund. The Directors of the Fund may establish such an underlying company for the purpose of holding all or part of the investments of the Fund if they consider this to be in the interests of shareholders. For the purpose of determining the value of the net assets of the Fund, the Fund and any underlying company will be valued on a consolidated basis.

Publication of Prices of Participating Shares

The quotations for Participating Shares on The Stock Exchange will appear in The Stock Exchange Daily Official List. The manager will also arrange for the Financial Times to publish daily in the "Offshore and Overseas Funds" section the prices for the Participating Shares.

Further Information

Further information is contained in the following Appendices:

- Share Capital and Rights
- Auditors' Report
- Articles of Association — Directors
- General Information
- Documents available for inspection

APPENDIX A

Share Capital and Rights

The authorised share capital of the Fund is US \$300,000, divided into 10,000 Management Shares of US \$1 each and 29,000 Unclassified Shares of 1 cent (US) each. The Unclassified Shares may be issued as Participating Income Shares, Participating Accumulation Shares or Nominal Shares. At the date hereof no Participating Shares or Nominal Shares have been issued. 1,000 Management Shares have been issued for cash at par. It is intended that those Management Shares will be acquired by LSJ.

Management Shares

The Management Shares have been created in order that Participating Shares may be issued. (Under the laws of the Cayman Islands, the Participating Shares, to be redeemable, have to be preference shares. The Participating Shares must have a preference over some other class of share capital.) The Management Shares carry one vote on a poll, do not carry any right to dividends and, in a winding-up, rank only for a return of paid up capital (after the return of nominal capital paid up on Participating Shares and Nominal Shares).

Participating Shares

The Participating Income Shares carry a right to dividends declared by the Fund in general meeting or resolved to be paid by the Directors. The Participating Accumulation Shares carry no right to dividends. Instead they have a right to an increased share in the assets of the Fund.

Under the Articles of Association of the Fund the proportion of the net assets of the Fund that is attributable to the Participating Income Shares in aggregate and to the Participating Accumulation Shares in aggregate is determined as follows:

- Each Participating Income Share is treated as representing one undivided share in the Fund's net assets.
- Each Participating Accumulation Share comprised in the initial issue of Participating Accumulation Shares is treated, upon issue, as one undivided share in the Fund's net assets.
- Each Participating Accumulation Share issued after the initial issue of Participating Accumulation Shares is treated as representing, upon issue, the same number (including fractions) of undivided shares in the Fund's net assets as each Participating Accumulation Share then in issue.
- On each occasion when Participating Accumulation Shares are in issue or deemed to be in issue and a dividend is declared in respect of the Participating Income Shares, the number (including fractions) of undivided shares in the Fund's net assets represented by each Participating Accumulation Share is treated as increased to such extent (so nearly as may be without involving a fraction smaller than one ten-thousandth part of an undivided share) that the minimum price at which a Participating Accumulation Share may be issued (which is based on the value of the net assets of the Fund) shall not exceed the value of the Fund's net assets.
- The proportion of the Fund's net assets attributable to the aggregate of all Participating Income Shares or Participating Accumulation Shares is the proportion of the net assets of the Fund as the total number of undivided shares represented by the Participating Shares of the particular class in question bears to the total number of undivided shares represented by all Participating Shares.

Each holder of Participating Shares will be entitled, on a poll, to one vote for each Participating Share held. In a winding-up, each Participating Share carries a right to a return of the nominal capital paid up in respect of such share in priority to the repayment of the nominal amounts paid up on Nominal and Management Shares. After the return of the nominal capital paid up on Nominal and Management Shares any surplus assets will be apportioned between the Participating Income Shares and Participating Accumulation Shares according to their respective interests in the net assets.

All Participating Shares not previously redeemed will be redeemed by the Fund on 31 December 2003 or if that day is not a business day on the next following business day, at the redemption price on the day in question.

LSJ as manager is empowered under the Articles of Association to require the transfer or redemption of any Participating Share which is owned directly or beneficially by any person in breach of any law or requirement of any country or government authority by virtue of which such person is not qualified to hold such Participating Share.

Further Issues of Participating Shares

The Articles of Association provide that, after the initial issue of Participating Shares, and except where there is a suspension of the valuation of the Fund's assets, further Participating Shares of each class may be issued on Subscription Days at a price per Participating Share of not less than that determined by assessing the value of the Fund's net assets on the relevant Valuation Day, deducting the paid up capital on the Nominal and Management Shares in issue, adding a provision for duties and charges payable on a deemed acquisition of the whole of the Fund's portfolio, ascertaining the proportion of that amount attributable to each class of Participating Share, and dividing the amount of the respective proportions so ascertained by the total number of Participating Shares of the relevant class in issue and deemed to be in issue. The price per Participating Share so calculated may then be increased by a manager's fee of an amount not exceeding three per cent. of such price plus the amount necessary to round up the resulting sum to the nearest whole cent.

Nominal Shares

The Nominal Shares can only be issued at par and only for the purpose of providing funds for the repayment of the nominal amounts of Participating Shares. They will be issued only by LSJ as manager. They carry no right to dividends. In a winding-up, they carry the right to repayment of nominal capital paid up in priority to repayment of nominal capital paid up on the Management Shares. Each holder of Nominal Shares is entitled, on a poll, to one vote in respect of all the Nominal Shares held by him.

LSJ is obliged to subscribe for Nominal Shares for cash at par when Participating Shares are redeemed, unless the Directors decide that the nominal amount of such Participating Shares is to be redeemed out of profits. Nominal Shares may, at the option of LSJ and by payment of the appropriate sum to the Fund, be converted into Participating Shares of either class for sale to investors.

Variation of Rights

The rights attached to any class of shares may, subject to the laws of the Cayman Islands or unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class, be varied or abrogated with the consent in writing of the holders of three-quarters of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of a resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of the class by a majority of three-quarters of the votes cast at that meeting. For these purposes, the Directors may treat all the classes of Participating Shares as forming one class if they consider that all such classes would be affected in the same way by the proposed variation or abrogation but in every other case each class of Participating Shares shall be treated as a separate class. The rights attached to the Participating Shares are deemed to be varied by any variation of the rights attached to shares of any other class or by the creation or issue of any shares other than Participating Shares ranking pari passu with them as respects dividend rights and rights in a winding-up and on a reduction of capital. Subject to the above, the rights conferred on the holders of any shares issued with preferred or other rights shall, unless otherwise expressly provided by the conditions of issue of such shares, be deemed not to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking in any respect pari passu with them.

Sequestration of the interests of shareholders

The Fund has given to the manager power in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to cease to hold the Fund's assets to the Fund's order and instead to hold those assets on trust (broadly) to discharge all liabilities of the Fund to creditors and to distribute any surplus remaining to shareholders on terms similar to the rights of shareholders under the Articles of Association of the Fund. This procedure is designed to safeguard the interests of shareholders and creditors and would be implemented only if the manager considered it to be desirable for any reason to safeguard those interests. The intention is that, on instructions being given by the manager to the custodian, shareholders' rights in the Fund would be valueless but shareholders would become beneficiaries under the trust to distribute the assets held by the custodian. As an alternative to the distribution of the assets of the Fund by the custodian, provision has been made to allow those assets to be transferred by the custodian to a new company in exchange for as many shares in that new company to shareholders of the Fund. This alternative may be implemented only with the sanction of a resolution passed at a meeting summoned at the discretion of the custodian by a majority of 75 per cent. of the shareholders present in person or by proxy.

APPENDIX B

Auditors' Report

The following is a copy of reports addressed to the Directors of the Fund by Coopers & Lybrand in the Cayman Islands and in Jersey, the joint Auditors of the Fund:

To the Directors,
The Diversified Bond Fund Limited,
19 July 1983.

Dear Sirs,

The Diversified Bond Fund Limited ("the Fund") was incorporated on 14 July 1983. The Fund has not commenced trading and no accounts for the Fund have been made up and no dividends have been declared or paid.

Yours faithfully,

Coopers & Lybrand, Jersey, Channel Islands Coopers & Lybrand, Cayman Islands.

APPENDIX C

The Articles of Association — Directors

The Articles of Association contain provisions relating to Directors (inter alia) as follows:

- A Director may act in a professional capacity for the Fund (other than as Auditor) and may receive remuneration for such professional services. A Director may also hold other office or place of profit with the Fund (other than the office of Auditor) and may be a director, officer or member of any company in which the Fund may be interested.
- A Director may contract with the Fund and no contract or arrangement made by the Fund in which any Director is in any way interested shall be liable to be avoided, but the nature of his interest must be declared at a meeting of the Directors.
- A Director may not normally vote in respect of any contract in which he is materially interested.
- Unless and until otherwise determined from time to time by the Fund in general meeting each Director shall be entitled to such remuneration for his services as the Directors shall from time to time resolve, provided that the aggregate remuneration of all the Directors shall not exceed US \$10,000 in respect of any financial period of the Fund. The Directors may also be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with the business of the Fund and may receive remuneration for special services. However, Directors of the Fund who are also employees or directors of any company in the Lazard group will receive no remuneration.
- The Directors may exercise the powers of the Fund to borrow subject to the limitations referred to in paragraph 12 of Appendix D.
- There is no share qualification for Directors.
- There is no age limit for Directors.
- A Director may be removed at any time by ordinary resolution of the Fund in general meeting.

APPENDIX D

General Information

- The Constitution of the Fund is defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Its registered office is at The Aall Building, North Church Street, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, British West Indies.
- The expenses incurred in the formation of the Fund are estimated to amount to US \$10,000 which will be paid by the Fund. The expenses incurred in connection with the initial issue of Participating Shares and obtaining The Stock Exchange listing (including the fees of legal, accountancy and financial advisers, printing and advertising costs and The Stock Exchange listing fee) are estimated to amount to US \$150,000. US \$40,000 of this will be paid by LSJ and the balance will be paid by the Fund. The expenses to be borne by the Fund will be amortised over a period of five years from the dates on which they are incurred, and will be charged against income.
- The Fund is not engaged in any litigation or arbitration or no litigation or claim is known to the Directors to be pending or threatened against the Fund.
- LSJ may at its discretion pay out of its management fee a commission to agents in respect of the amount of subscriptions procured by such agents.
- There are no existing or proposed service contracts between any of the Directors and the Fund, but the Directors may receive remuneration as provided in the Articles of Association (see Appendix C). It is estimated that the Directors' remuneration in aggregate will not exceed US \$10,000 in the Fund's first financial period.
- The following contracts, which are or may be material, have been entered into otherwise than in the ordinary course of business:
 - a management agreement between (1) the Fund and (2) LSJ dated 21 July 1983, whereby LSJ has agreed to manage the business of the Fund;
 - a registrar and secretarial agreement between (1) the Fund and (2) ATB dated 21 July 1983, whereby ATB has agreed to act as the registrar and secretary of the Fund;
 - a custodian agreement between (1) the Fund, (2) LSJ and (3) MGT dated 21 July 1983, whereby MGT has agreed to act as custodian of the assets of the Fund;
 - investment advisory agreement between (1) the Fund, (2) LSJ and (3) Lazard Securities Limited dated 21 July 1983, whereby Lazard Securities Limited has agreed to provide investment advice to LSJ;
 - power of attorney executed under seal by the Fund dated 21 July 1983, whereby LSJ has been appointed the attorney of the Fund with power in certain circumstances to instruct the custodian to hold the assets of the Fund other than to the order of the Fund in order to safeguard the interests of creditors and shareholders of the Fund.
 - The Fund has not commenced business and has not established and does not intend to establish a place of business in Great Britain. The Fund does not have any subsidiaries.
 - The minimum amount which is the opinion of the Directors must be raised by the initial issue of Participating Shares in order to provide for the matters referred to in paragraph 4 of the Fourth Schedule to the Companies Act 1948 (Great Britain) is US \$1,000,000 to be applied as follows:
 - purchase price of property, nil;
 - preliminary expenses (including expenses in connection with the initial issue), to the extent incurred and payable by the Fund, US \$120,000;
 - repayment of monies borrowed for preliminary expenses, nil;
 - working capital, US \$880,000.
 - Coopers & Lybrand in the Cayman Islands and in Jersey have each given and have not withdrawn their written consent to the issue of this prospectus with the inclusion therein of their report in the form and context in which it is included.
 - This prospectus shall have the effect, where an application is made in pursuance thereof, of rendering all persons concerned bound by the provisions (other than penal provisions) of sections 50 and 51 of the Companies Act 1948 (Great Britain) so far as applicable.
 - Persons interested in acquiring Participating Shares in the Fund should inform themselves as to (a) the legal requirements within the countries of their nationality, residence or domicile for such acquisition (b) any foreign exchange restriction or exchange control requirements which they might encounter on acquisition or disposal of Participating Shares and (c) the income tax and any other tax consequences which might be relevant to the acquisition, holding or disposal of Participating Shares.
 - The Directors may exercise the powers of the Fund to borrow but borrowings of the Fund and its subsidiaries (if any) may not, without the consent of the Fund in general meeting, exceed one-quarter of the share capital and consolidated reserves as defined in the Fund's Articles of Association. Although the Directors do not anticipate that any borrowings will be made, they intend to negotiate standby borrowing facilities for use in exceptional or unforeseen circumstances. Save as disclosed herein, the Fund does not have any debentures, loan capital, borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing, bank overdrafts, liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, mortgages, charges, hire-purchase commitments, guarantees or other material contingent liabilities. Normal banking transactions will from time to time be carried out through Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited or its subsidiaries upon normal terms.
 - The Directors of LSJ are:
 - Mr. V. Wylie of Ewbank Mason, Partridge Green, near Hordham, Sussex, United Kingdom (Chairman).
 - Mr. J. Stevenson of La Pasterrie, Route a Pierre, Montefiore, St. Lawrence, Jersey, Channel Islands (Deputy Chairman).
 - Mr. T. H. Allan of 10 Ambleside, Epping, Essex, United Kingdom.
 - Hon. Mr. D. A. Benson of 34 St. John's Avenue, London SW15, United Kingdom.
 - Mr. D. H. Bushell of Pierre Perce Lodge, Route a Braye, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. R. J. Fielden of Home Farm, Cokeridge, Dorking, Surrey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. J. C. M. Robertson of 4 La Grande Mairie, Faurie, Grosvenor, Jersey, Channel Islands.
 - Mr. S. J. Scrimgeour of La Thelouse, L'Ecluse, St. Omer, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Inflation floodgates ajar

At that point, prices will begin to escalate sharply, gold will rise strongly; the dollar will start to crumble and the Federal Reserve will have no option but intervene.

Maxwell Newton

ICI to report good interims, analysts agree

The debt troubles of Third World countries, such as Brazil, Nigeria and Venezuela, and of Poland are well documented. The banks had been hoping for a 15 per cent to 17 per cent drop in British bad-debt provisions.

Trade pendulum swings again

So shareholders are unlikely to see the same rate of increase in dividends as they have over

Dated 21 July 1983.

1

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6%; £10,000 up to £20,000, 7%; £20,000 and over, 8%.

Dated: July 20, 1983 **SCI SYSTEMS, Inc.**

EASTERN CAPITAL **DISCOUNT BROKERS.**

A&N Bank	9½	%
Barclays	9½	%
BCCI	9½	%
Consolidated Crds ...	9½	%
C. Hoare & Co	9½	%
Lloyds Bank	9½	%
Midland Bank	9½	%
Nat Westminster	9½	%
TSE	9½	%
Williams & Glyn's ...	9½	%

* 7 day deposits on basis of under £10,000, £10,000 to £20,000 and £20,000.

**5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated
Debentures Due April 1, 1998**

(Convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc.)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Fiscal and Paying Agency agreement dated as of April 1, 1993 among SCI Finance N.V., SCI Systems, Inc. and Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, under which the 5% Guaranteed Convertible Subordinated Debentures Due April 1, 1998 (the "April Debentures") of SCI Finance N.V. were issued, that (i) SCI Systems, Inc. has declared, and will pay on or before July 29, 1993, a 100% Stock Dividend to its stockholders based on the close of business on July 15, 1993, and (ii) effective July 16, 1993, the convertible subordinated April 1, 1998 Debentures are convertible into Common Stock of SCI Systems, Inc. has been adjusted from US\$40.15 to US\$20.08 per share of Common Stock.

Dated: July 20, 1993

SCI SYSTEMS, Inc.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

Celebrity AM News headlines, weather, traffic and sports details. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

Breakfast Time with Nick Ross and Selina Scott. News from Andrew Harvey at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit and family budget between 8.45 and 7.00; tonight's television previewed between 7.15 and 7.30; review of the morning papers at 7.30 and 8.30; horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45; food and cooking hints between 8.45 and 9.00.

Hey Look... That's Mal Chris Harris train with 12-year old marathon runner Cheryl Page and investigates the new sport of under-16 stock car racing. 9.25. Includes a road trial by one of the Secret Gardens, by Frances Hodgson Burnett (r) 9.40. The Amazing Adventures of Morph. Presented by Tony Hart (r) 9.45. Why Don't You...? Ideas for children with time on their hands. 10.10. Closedown.

News After Noon with Michael Cole and Norman Gray. The weather presenter comes from 9.00. 1.27. Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.30. Check-a-Block. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r) 1.45. Film: Go To Blazes (1981) starring Dave King and Peter McKelvey. Comedy about a young man in a car accident who is taken to a hospital. Directed by Michael Hoffman. 3.05. Cartoon.

Yakko Doo. A cartoon by Warner Bros. 3.15. A Year in the Life of Eleanor Roosevelt. A documentary about Tom Rook (r) 4.15. Regional news (not London).

1. Play School. Shown earlier on BBC2. 4.45. Cartoon. Scooby and Scrappy Doo in the Ghoul, the Bat and the Ugly (r) 5.05. John Craxie's Newsround. The latest world news for young people. 5.18. The Red Head Gang. Part two and the gang find a new hideout - a haunted house (r).

8. News with Ian Jennings. 8.00. South East at Six. Presented by Sue Cook and Laurie Mayer. 9. Nationwide including Wales and High Country's weekly look at accusations of bureaucratic abuse. 10. World of Wildlife. The curious habits of the animal world. Narrated by Robert Powell. 11. News. A hijacked car crashes into the millionaire detective's office and the dying driver's last words warn that thousands of people are about to die.

12. Panorama. The Hi-Tech Trail. In Moscow, Michael Cockerill investigates the extent of Russia's industrial espionage in the West. 13. News with Frances Coverdale. 14. Film: The Omen Field (1979). The first showing on British television of the drama, based on the book about the brutal murder of a Los Angeles doctor and the efforts to bring the killer to justice. Starring John Savage and James Woods and directed by Harold Becker.

16. News headlines. 17. Barbara Mandrell and the Marshall Sisters. The country and western singer has Dotie West and Jim Stafford as her guests. 18. Weather.

19. Yorkshire. Radio 1: 105.5kHz/285m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90.22; Radio 4: 1500kHz; VHF 92.95; LBC 152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 154kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.5; World 642kHz/463m.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; celebrity guest Ian Ogilvy from 6.33; the morning papers reviewed by Martin Wainwright at 7.05; highlights of the News at 7.10; sport at 7.45; pop video at 7.55; going for a laugh at 8.05; Jimmy Greaves previews television at 8.35; exercise with Ned Liddle at 8.50; and from 8.00 Roland the Rat in Cardiff.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street. 9.30. The Muppet Show. International. The latest news of scientific research; 10.35. Alphabet Zoo. Nerys Hughes and Ralph McElwain with 2. For Zebra; 12.10. Let's Pretend to the story of The Man Who Wanted His Milk (r); 12.30. Collectors' Club. Today Jenny Hawley talks about the collection of love tokens.

1.00 News with Leonard Parlin. 1.20 Thames news from Robin Houston. 1.30. Miracles Take Longer. A two-part drama set in a community advice service centre. Part two tomorrow. 2.00. Wild Times. Part one. Gun-toting Hugh Cardiff saves a ranch worker's life and is asked to spend as long as he likes on the ranch. 3.50. Cartoon Time. Bugs Bunny in Hare-Meets-Hare (r).

4.00 Alphabet Zoo. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15. Cartoon Victor and Maria. 4.20. The New Fantastic Four and the Olympics of Space. 4.45. A Musical World: The Liberty Tree. In this first of a new series the pupils of Sponson School, Derby, re-enact, to music, the 1817 Derbyshire Rebellion. 5.15. PS It's Paul Squire.

5.45. News. 6.00. Thames news. 6.25. Help! Community action news presented by Julie Walters. 6.35. Crossroads. Eddie Lee is the subject of an argument between Diane Hunter and Sharon Mitchell. 7.00. The Krypton Factor. The fifth class of the brain and brain competition features four men struggling for a place in the semi-final.

7.30. Coronation Street. Stan Ogden is enraged by a letter sent to his wife. 8.00. The Happy Apple. Comedy series set in an advertising agency that has known better times. 8.30. World in Action: The Trails of Hoffman. An investigation into the disposal of Seveso's poisoned waste - dioxin. (see Choice)

9.00. Quincy. A teenage girl dies because of an abortion performed by a drunken doctor. The pathologist comes up against a conspiracy of silence during his investigations. 10.00. News. 10.30. Looks Familiar. The first of a new series in which Denis Norden and guests reminisce about the Thirties and Forties. This evening he talks to Alice Faye.

11.00. Hill Street Blues. Buddy Can You Spare a Heart? Another hectic adventure for the boys in blue. 12.00. Film: Who Was Maddox? (1982) starring Bernard Lee. A successful young publisher returns home to find his house broken into. Directed by Geoffrey Nethercott.

12.55. Close.



George Best: Victim (BBC 2 10.10pm)

Dr Anthony Clare's successful radio series of revealing interviews has been brought to television with George Best, the wayward football genius, the first guest of MOTIVEL (BBC 2 10.10pm). Whether or not Best found the lighting or the cameras as daunting as his inquisitor the effect was that he seemed transfixed - hardly moving and with a half-smile expression throughout. Nor did Dr Clare unearth anything new about Best's erratic behaviour - the alcoholism, the bar-room brawls, his broken marriage and his string of affairs with pretty girls. What does emerge is Best's insecurities stemming from his leaving his football home at the age of 15 to play football in Manchester. His precocious skill brought him

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Diffusion of Dutch Elm Disease. 6.30. Culture and Community: Spain (r) 6.55. Maths: Matrices (2). 7.20. The Kenyan Self Farmer. 7.45. Exmoor: A Self-portrait. Closedown at 8.10.

10.30 Play School. 10.55. Fiction and Publishing. An Open University programme that looks at the pros and cons of the question of government subsidies for fiction publishing - a system that has been adopted in Sweden. 5.40. Topper. Vintage American comedy series about a husband and wife team of ghosts who return to haunt their former home in the company of an inherited dog.

6.05. 'Hard on, I'll just speak to the World'. A documentary that illustrates a typical day in the life of the 50-year old BBC External Services, based at Bush House, London (r). 6.55. Six Fifty-five. Song-writers are at the Radio 4 studios in force this evening as Barry Mason, Andy Hill and Don Black are joined by singers Stephanie de Sykes and Paris.

7.25. News summary with subtitles. 7.30. A Moment to Talk. The third in the eight-part series that savours the conversations of ordinary people on the industry. This evening it is the turn of shipyard blacksmiths at Sunderland Shipbuilders.

7.45. QED How to Pick up Girls, Win Arguments and Influence People. An investigation into why some people are more successful than others through the character of one Arnold Quarmby - one of life's losers - who is given a crash-course in success (r). 8.30. The Paul Daniels Magic Show. The entertainer's guests are from Las Vegas, pin-point ball juggling Gran Piccolo and the acrobatic Alexis Sisters from Portugal (r).

9.00. Call My Bluff. Arthur Marshall's team of John McKenna and Paul Eddington try to outwit Frank Mull's callers, Virginia McKenna and Richard Baker. 9.30. One Man and His Dog. Introduced by Phil Drabble. Heat one features shepherds from Scotland - Alistair Cutler, Viv Billingham and John Trevithick (r).

10.10. Metwies. The first in a new series of seven programmes in which the celebrated psychologist, Dr Anthony Clare, talks to public figures. His guest tonight is wayward football star George Best (see Choice). 10.50. Newsnight. 11.40. Open University: Loch Lomond Glaciation. 12.05. Television. The latest 12.30. Closeown at 1.00 approximately.

CHANNEL 4

5.30 A Kind of Living. The final programme in the series presented by Susan Penhaligon that examines the practical aspects of self-sufficiency. This afternoon's programme re-caps on the main points of the previous programme. 5.57. Weather. 6.00. News Summary. 7.45. Thought for the Day. 8.35. The Week on 4. 8.50. The Week in the BBC Sound Archives. 8.57. Weather. 9.00. News. Start the week with Richard Baker. 1.00. Country Living. Magazine for people in the countryside. 10.30. Evening Story. The Proving Ground by James Hill. The reader is Kenneth Fortesque.

10.45. Daily Service. 11.00. The World Tonight. Down Your Way. 11.45. Poetry Please. The readers are Alan Mackay and Bonnie Hunter. The presenter, Norman Macgregor. 12.00. News. You and Yours - Consumer advice. 12.15. Around the World in 25 Years with Johnny Morris. New. 12.30. News. 12.45. The World at One. 1.55. Shipping Forecast. 2.00. News. Women's Hour. Including an item on the effects of divorce on men. And part 1 of Pauline Hicks's The Third Miss Symonds.

3.00. News. The Moonlight Theatre: Still Waters. A comedy about an estate agent (Martin Jarvis) who creates for his clients a life with Carol Coyd (r). 4.17. Drake's Island. Life in an adventure school on the historic island near Plymouth. Children aged between 8 and 18 have daily activities which include sailing, climbing and caving with relaxation activities in the evenings. Mike Ingham follows a group of children on this course which is designed for the participant to find out more about themselves.

5.00. Archie Bunker's Place. The two ill-matched business partners have yet another 7.20. Discussion, this time over Archie's wife, Edith. 8.30. American Football Special: The United States Football League Final. Nicky Horne and Miles Allen report from the Mile High Stadium, Denver, Colorado, on the game between the Philadelphia Stars and the Michigan Panthers. 9.30. Ear to the Ground. The disappearing countryside is the main item in tonight's edition of the topical magazine programme for young adults. In a film four young people give their views of the problems facing rapidly declining rural areas.

10.30. St Elmo's. More black comedy from the staff and patients of the elderly St Elmo's Hospital in Boston. Tonight Dr Morrison patches up a youth who has taken a beating and there is some bizarre excitement when a lady in her forties exposes herself to a series of unsuspecting males. 11.30. The Best of C. L. R. James. The final lecture in the series and the octogenarian West Indian Marxist discusses the economic and political of the Polish trade union, Solidarity.

12.00. Closedown.

CHOICE

success too soon for his own good and also a fear of failure. Despite Best's lack of animation - is insecurity? - Dr Clare manages to keep his subject talking, but I should think that the eminent psychologist will be happier with someone more articulate. The mysterious arrival in France of 41 barrels containing deadly poison is the subject of tonight's World in Action, THE TRAILS OF HOFFMAN (TV 8.30pm). Discovered behind a derelict butcher's shop, the barrels had been lying eight months, according to Hoffman La Roche, the Swiss chemical company whose subsidiary was responsible for the poisoning of a Swiss senator's child in Action reports on the disposal

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10. Farming Week. 6.25. Shipping Forecast. 6.30. Today. Including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 7.00. Today's News. 7.25. 8.25. Sport. 8.30. 7.30. News Summary. 7.45. Thought for the Day. 8.35. The Week on 4. 8.50. The Week in the BBC Sound Archives. 8.57. Weather. 9.00. News. Start the week with Richard Baker. 1.00. Country Living. Magazine for people in the countryside. 10.30. Evening Story. The Proving Ground by James Hill. The reader is Kenneth Fortesque.

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12.00. Closedown.

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decisions taken by the company and interviews Bernard Partridge, a Marcellus waste disposal dealer, about his role in bringing the poison from Italy to France. A little-known children's novel, Instructive Rambles in London and the Adjacent Villages, has been rescued from obscurity by a talk by Adrian Mourby, in THE SAVING OF CHARLES AND MARY (Radio 4 9.15pm). Mr Mourby re-creates the lives of the two children, a young brother and sister who are saved from a life of poverty with their aunt by their father who puts them on the path to educational salvation as they explore the 'villages' of among others, Blackheath, Islington and Hampstead. An informative little nugget of the type the BBC do so well.

Radio 3

4.40. Story Time. Tullu by Peter Dickinson in ten parts (r). The reader is Gerard Green. 5.00. PM: News Magazine. 5.50. Shipping Forecast. 6.00. The Six O'Clock News: Financial Report. 6.30. Quizzes. 7.00. Uniquely. With Christopher Martin-Jenkins, Alan Melville, Rosemary Anne Sisson and Julia Langdon on the panel. 7.25. The Passions of the Soul (new series) Music from the Baroque, Monteverdi, Giovanni Gabrieli, Corelli, Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven (Spring Song, Op. 18).

1.00. News. 1.05. The Passions of the Soul (new series) Music from the Baroque, Monteverdi, Giovanni Gabrieli, Corelli, Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven (Spring Song, Op. 18). 2.00. Madrigal Musicale BBC Concert Orchestra: Vaughan Williams (overture: The Wasp), Joseph Strauss (Waltz: The Blue Danube), Butterworth, Stokowski (Intermezzo: Kullback Suite). 3.00. News. 3.05. The Passions of the Soul (new series) Music from the Baroque, Monteverdi, Giovanni Gabrieli, Corelli, Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven (Spring Song, Op. 18).

4.00. News. 4.05. The Passions of the Soul (new series) Music from the Baroque, Monteverdi, Giovanni Gabrieli, Corelli, Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven (Spring Song, Op. 18). 5.00. PM: News Magazine. 5.50. Shipping Forecast. 6.00. The Six O'Clock News: Financial Report. 6.30. Quizzes. 7.00. Uniquely. With Christopher Martin-Jenkins, Alan Melville, Rosemary Anne Sisson and Julia Langdon on the panel. 7.25. The Passions of the Soul (new series) Music from the Baroque, Monteverdi, Giovanni Gabrieli, Corelli, Scarlatti, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven (Spring Song, Op. 18).

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TONIGHT'S PROM

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Life and death struggle in the Ethiopian wilderness



Birth struggle: A child being examined by a barefoot doctor

Eritrea: A country within a country

"We didn't know he was so bad", said Sahla Giotom's father as we sat watching his son lying, staring vacantly at the wall of the tent. "Each day he would go out with the bullocks looking for forage - but then one day he couldn't get up - so I carried him here."

"Here" was a tented clinic in Felki, Eritrea, run by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, and Sahla Giotom was starving to death. Help was too late. He is probably dead.

Sahla Giotom's father and his fellow peasants were displaced by the British in 1951, butchered by Haile Selassie's forces in the late 1950's, bombed by the American-backed regime in the 1960s, napalmed and repressed by the Russian-backed administration in the 1970s and now find themselves up against a Russian equipped, trained and led Ethiopian Army which is being gratuitously fed with American and EEC food.

As if that wasn't enough, they also suffered considerably during the great Sahelian drought of the late 1960s and early 1970s and are in the midst of a drought which appears to be of equal severity. For the past three years the family have wandered around the barren uplands of Eritrea's central provinces searching for

Eritrean guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Ethiopian Government are showing remarkable administrative skills in governing their country within a country. Ian Robinson, an agricultural and rural development adviser who has spent 13 years in the Middle East and Africa, reports on his recent visit to the region.

a place with enough water to sustain a meagre subsistence crop of millet, and enough natural vegetation to support their two bullocks. Cut off from their traditional areas of refuge by military action, they failed and returned to their original village, their seeds eaten, their bullocks too feeble to work and their son dying.

Sahla's father represents the majority of Eritrean peasants who have opted for the traditional methods of survival during times of hardship - itinerance and hierarchical dependency. Unfortunately, neither system is adequate to deal with the combined forces that man and nature have stacked against them.

But not all the population have stuck to those two options. Over the past 22 years an

armed struggle between the liberation movement and Ethiopia's armed forces has been waged leading to an exodus of some 400,000 Eritrean refugees, the creation of 10 refugee camps within Eritrea itself accommodating 65,000 people and the formation of one of the most skilled and motivated fighting forces in Africa, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front.

When I visited the EPLF's base areas in the mountainous province of Sahel recently, I followed a food convoy along dry river beds and up mountain passes along roads that had been non-existent four years before.

According to the driver, the organization's road building skills had been derived from the Italians. "They didn't teach

us much," he said, "but they taught us how to build roads." And so following Russian intervention on Ethiopia's side in 1978, which led to a strategic withdrawal of the EPLF's fighters into the base areas: roads, offices, hospitals and wells have been built in a remarkably short time.

The Front's activities are directed from underground offices equipped with all the trappings of modern African ministries except the bureaucracy and the corruption. Like every fighter, the administrators have been through a year's training.

At the moment the EPLF's priorities are understandably militarily biased, followed by immediate relief activities and the development of the health and education services. Yet in

every village I found adults being taught basic literacy and numeracy. This will have a remarkable impact, with peasant women the chief beneficiaries.

However, the question remains, how long can the Eritrean people resist an Ethiopian Government supported by both East (arms) and West (food and development aid)?

According to a senior EPLF official the Russian Ambassador in Sudan has already claimed that the elimination of the Eritrean problem would be simple - as there are "only three million of them". But it may not be as easy as that if the EPLF can conduct its military operations with the efficiency it shows in administration.

Armed struggle: A woman EPLF fighter. Photographs: Mike Goldwater

Challenge to Gemayel rule in Lebanon

Continued from page 1

there is no doubt that Mr Jumblatt's coalition is going to be the *de facto* administration in the Syrian-occupied area, doing nothing that would offend Syria.

Meanwhile another truce was agreed yesterday between Christians and Druze in the Israeli-occupied Chouf mountains after the two sides had spent hours firing shells and rockets at each other around the village of Kfarshima.

The suburban skyline above Beirut was lit up for most of Saturday night by bright explosions and red tracer bullets.

Israeli tank crews fired a few desultory rounds at both militias but otherwise did not bother to intervene.

TEL AVIV: Two key Israeli ministers will fly to Washington today to discuss developments in Lebanon with President Reagan in place of Mr. Begin, the Prime Minister, who last week cancelled his scheduled visit to the White House.

Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr. Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, were invited by the President in a message to the Prime Minister received yesterday, and the Cabinet quickly authorized the journey.

Announcing the Cabinet decision, Mr. Dan Meridor, the spokesman, said the talks will have repercussions in Lebanon, but the government expected to go ahead with last week's decision to pull back to the Litani river and return some 200 sq miles in the Beirut area and the Chouf mountains to Lebanese sovereignty.

However, some Israelis said this decision may have to be re-examined if Lebanon appeared to be on the brink of a renewed civil war.

Maariv said in an editorial that Israel could not be indifferent when the Druze in the Chouf mountains, who were almost totally identified with the Syrians, confronted the Lebanese authorities to prevent them from taking over territory to be evacuated by the Israelis.

Notwithstanding Israel's wish to stay out of inter-communal disputes and the objections of the Israeli public to having soldiers patrol the Chouf, Israel could not withdraw and shake off responsibility for the consequences, the paper said.

Mr. Begin's "personal reasons" for postponing his Washington mission had not yet been officially defined.

Letter from New York

Patriotic ritual of a canine graduation

There was quite a crowd around the steps of City Hall, leaning on crush barriers and talking to the cops. There were also 12 German shepherd dogs lying in a row, their tongues lolling in the heat. Television reporters were swivelling their heads in search of a pose in which their faces were neither screwed up against the sunshine nor lost in shadow.

The mayor, in shirt-sleeves, took his place in a bunting-decked dais with some senior police officers. A young black policeman stepped forward and began to sing the national anthem in a clear and powerful voice, his head thrown back so that he seemed to project the words at the skyscraper counting-houses of Wall Street. The people put their hands on their hearts.

It demonstrated one of the differences between them and us: one could not imagine a bobby singing God Save the Queen in such circumstances. It would seem bizarre and embarrassing.

But a solo rendering of "The Star Spangled Banner" is a feature of many public functions in America. The anthem is not a dirge like the British one and it celebrates an event and an ideal rather than a person and an institution. In any case, Americans are less self-conscious about patriotic rituals, and more serious about them. They are more respectful to their flag, for example. Children are taught at summer camps how to fold it and to avoid dropping and thereby desecrating it.

Its vulgar use in commerce is forbidden by law, while Britons cheerfully make pants and paper bags out of the Union Jack.

When the policeman had completed his magnificent performance, attention turned to the dogs, or canines as they were called. (It is one of the paradoxes of American usage, so often slangy, snappy and pithy, that it frequently slips into periphrasis and gives a dog a long name.)

This was the canines' graduation day, on which the mayor and the top cops cried havoc to criminal and unleashed Bruiser, Prince and their mates into the war against crime.

New York's city police force has not used dogs since the beginning of the century. Their reintroduction is in keeping with the new approach to tackling crime in the city, an increase in uniformed patrols and an emphasis on special programmes aimed at certain kinds of criminal. The programmes, incidentally, seem to be effective, the latest figures showing a reduction in burglaries and robberies, so that the city has become a little safer.

Six of the dogs will work in Central Park, famous for its lanes, dells and meadows, and notorious for its muggers; and the other six will join the transport police in the fight against robbers and hooligans in the crowded subway system.

Apart from the deterrent value of their lupine jaws, the dogs have what policemen lack: sheer speed in pursuit of fleeing criminals. New York police, unlike some others, are not supposed to shoot at unarmed people running away from them; and the dogs will give them a longer arm.

The newly-trained dogs and their handlers mounted the dais to be presented to the mayor and officials. They were followed by the people who had saved the taxpayers' money by responding to a police appeal for German shepherd pups.

These loyal citizens received certificates of appreciation. New York's MBE, a round of applause and a pat on the back from the mayor. Thus, with the anthem, bigwigs and what Americans call pizzazz, New York made what might otherwise have been a mundane event into something of an occasion.

Trevor Fishlock

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne attends a special concert in aid of voluntary organizations in Berkshire, at the Heavon, Reading, 7.15.
Princess Margaret attends a performance by the Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in aid of the International Council of Museums Foundation, 7.30.
The Duke of Gloucester opens ICOM '83, the thirteenth General Conference of the International Council of Museums, Barbican Hall, 9.50.

Council of Museums, Barbican Hall, 9.50.

Princess and Princess Michael of Kent attend a Gala Concert at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, in aid of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, 7.40.

Exhibitions in progress

Treasures from the collections of the Duke of Norfolk, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 6 (until Aug 7).
Pottery - eighteenth and nineteenth century, Ginnel Gallery, 16 Lloyds Street, Manchester: Mon to

Fri 9 to 5, Thurs until 5 (until Aug 5).

Presences of Nature: Words and images of the Lake District, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery and Museum, Alexandra Road, Swansea: Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5.30 (until Aug 27).
Indian Drawings, Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton: Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed Wednesdays and Sundays (until Aug 20).
Festival of Patchwork, Central Library, Lichfield: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4.30 (until July 30).

Work of Falmouth painter Hereward Hayes Tredder, Falmouth Art Gallery, Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4.30 (until Aug 31).
Arts and crafts: Alan Plummer, Jennifer Jones, Valerie Kirk, Tessa Clowery, Blue Cat Toy Co, Gill Scriven, Prescott Gallery, Cropredy, Banbury, Wed to Sun 10 to 5 (until Sept 4).

Life and times of C. W. Dyson, Perrins 1864-1958, Dyson Perrins Museum, Sevens Street, Worcester: Mon to Sat 9 to 5 (until Aug 25).
Paintings by Gordon Cumner (until Aug 7); and paintings by Scott Valentine (until Aug 4); Rozelle House, Rozelle Park, Ayr: Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5.
Last chance to see...

Trees, Mist and Water: Watercolours by June Stevens, Inverness Museum and Art Gallery, 9 to 5, (ends today).

Musical

Recital by Philip Jones Brass Ensemble, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.
Organ recital by Stuart King, Coventry Cathedral, 1.05.
Organ recital by Dennis Townhill, Brecon Cathedral, 7.30.
Chester Music Festival: Concert by Matthew Pinn, Chester, St Mary's Centre, Chester, 10.
Concert by Aberystwyth Ensemble, Aberystwyth Comprehensive School, Gower, 8.

Chamber concert by the Pariklan-Fleming-Roberts Trio, St Nicholas's Chapel, King's Lynn, 8.
Organ recital by John Scott, St Margaret's Church, King's Lynn, 4.
General
Bath Puppet Theatre, Parade Gardens, Bath, 2.15 to 4.30, (until July 30).

Anniversaries

Thomas à Kempis, mystic, died at Zwolle, Netherlands, 1471, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge in London, 1834. Louis Blériot made the first aeroplane crossing of the English Channel, 1909 - his time: 36 minutes.
Today is the Feast of Saint James the Great, James, the brother of Saint John, was one of the three Apostles who witnessed the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. He was the first Apostle to be martyred, being executed by Herod Agrippa in 44.

Pollen count

For today's pollen recording for London call British Telecom's Weatherline 01-246 809 - which is updated each morning at 10.30.

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Nature notes

The only birds singing steadily now, apart from the indefatigable wren, are the corn bunting and the skylark. Their songs are heard from far away over the dusty lanes and yellow fields. House-sparrows chirp together all day; they probably emit more sounds than any other birds in the course of a year. At the site in Southern England where they now breed with some regularity, golden orioles still produce a mellow whistle in the treetops; but one rarely sees more than a flash of the gold body and black wings as they dart through the foliage.
Grass is no longer a green plant but a predominantly white one, as the seed heads soften and the stems dry in the sun. The large white bells of convolvulus clamber over the hedges; field bindweed, their small pink or white relative, sprawls over car parks and rubbish heaps. The pale green clumps of mugwort acquire a rusty look as hundreds of tiny brown flowers open on them. The berries of the cuckoo-pint are turning orange. In chalk country, marbled white butterflies are appearing; they are often found in large, isolated colonies, feeding and sunning themselves on knapweed and thistles.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are: £100,000: 1872 031565 (the winner lives in Camden, North London); £50,000: 1722 890262 (West Sussex); £25,000: 89P 775729 (Cheshire).

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Motion on the summer adjournment. Proceedings on the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill.
Lords (2.30): Motion on Lord's expenses and on ministerial and other salaries. Debate on waterways.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia	1.90	1.72
Belgium	28.70	27.15
Canada	81.50	77.50
Denmark	1.93	1.85
France	14.67	13.97
Germany	12.18	11.66
Greece	4.07	3.87
Italy	135.00	126.90
Japan	113.20	106.67
Netherlands	1.29	1.23
Portugal	240.00	228.00
Spain	385.00	365.00
Sweden	11.55	11.00
Switzerland	184.00	174.00
USA	2.03	1.88
Yugoslavia	227.00	216.00
	12.16	11.56
	2.31	2.14
	1.56	1.46
	141.00	134.00

Retail Price Index: 334.7.
London: The FT Index closed down 4.1 on Friday at 706.8.
New York: The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed up 1.80 on Friday at 1251.17.

Roads

London and South-East M4: Lanes closed east of Fenton services. A205: One lane each way on Academy Road, Woolwich, part of South Circular. A414: One lane delay possible at Cats Hill, Stanstead Abbotts.

Midlands M6: One carriageway shared between junctions 10 and 11 (Walsall and Cannock). M45: Eastbound carriageway closed: diversion. A1: Lanes closed at Colsterworth, Lincolnshire.

North M1: Restricted access at times between junctions 30 and 31 near Sheffield, Derbyshire and South Yorkshire, contraflow. M6: One carriageway shared: from junction 43 to junction 44 (Carlisle). A568: Diversion westbound at Carrington, Stockport.

Wales and West A46: One lane only westbound west of Caerphilly, then, Dyfed. M5: Northbound carriageway shared between junctions 8 (M50) and 9 (Aberystwyth). M5: Northbound carriageway shared between junctions 13 and 14 (Stroud and Thornbury).

Scotland A78: Temporary signals at Loans by-pass, Strathclyde. A9: Single-lane traffic at Golspie and Brora, Sutherland. In Edinburgh, Leith and the Forth, one lane only. King George IV Bridge: seek alternative route; resurfacing at junction of west approach road, Kneeburn. Street and Westfield Road.

The papers

The only notable feature of some MPs chosen by Mr Michael Foot for peerages was their lack of distinction. The Sunday Times said yesterday: "The Opposition leader wanted the Upper House of Parliament abolished. But he also intended to make sure while it survived that the Alliance was not allowed to become the main source of opposition in it. The newspaper concluded that Mr Foot should have found lords of higher calibre."

British contributions to the EEC should be frozen until continental farm subsidies were cut, the Sunday Express said. Community finance ministers reneged last week on a deal agreed more than a year ago for a refund to Britain. Mrs Thatcher should not let the refund go towards rush subsidies to continental farmers.

Fierce criticism from Dame Peggy Ashcroft and Sir John Gielgud of government policy on the British Theatre Museum was justified, The Observer said. Government commitments of last year had been turned into an expression of hope by Lord Gower, Minister for the Arts, that the project would start in the next financial year. Lord Gower had also given an ominous warning about the need not to take resources for the museum from other projects.

Forbidden fruit

Chrysanthemums, potatoes, all forest trees, most fruit trees and Maltese gladioli are among the many plants that must not be imported into Britain by holiday travellers under any circumstances. Others may require a certificate of health. Details from the Plant Health Unit, Great Westminster House, London SW1 2AE.

Weather

A slack area of low pressure will persist over Britain. A frontal trough will clear slowly N from N Scotland.

6 am to midnight

London, East Angles, E Midlands, E England: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, some heavy; wind S, light or moderate; max 22 to 24C (72 to 75F). SE Central S, SW England, Channel Islands: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, some heavy; wind SW, moderate; locally fresh; max 21 to 23C (70 to 73F).

W Midlands, Wales, NW Central, N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland, N Ireland: Showers, some heavy and thundery, some sunny intervals; wind variable, light or moderate; max 18 to 21C (66 to 70F).

NE England, S Borders: Sunny intervals, showers, heavy at times; drizzle and misty near some coasts; wind variable, light or moderate; max 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Cloudy, rain, perhaps with thunder, becoming bright, sunny near coasts; wind E, veering SE or E, moderate; max 19 to 20C (66 to 68F).

NW Scotland: Cloudy, rain in places, becoming drier and brighter; wind E or SE, light or moderate; max 18 to 20C (64 to 68F).

Orkney, Shetland and Waddeney: Continuing unsettled, becoming mostly dry in W. Temperatures rather above normal but cooler near east coasts.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind variable, light or moderate; drizzle or rain; sea choppy. S North Sea: Wind variable, light or moderate; rain or drizzle; sea choppy. S North Sea: Wind variable, light or moderate; rain or drizzle; sea choppy.

Sun rises: 5.13am Sun sets: 9.00pm
Moon rises: 5.13am Moon sets: 9.46pm
Full Moon 12.27am

Lighting-up time

London 9.30 pm to 4.45 am
Edinburgh 10.04 pm to 4.54 am
Manchester 9.40 pm to 4.44 am
Penzance 9.46 pm to 5.12 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, cloud; b, rain; c, rain; d, sun.
Belfast: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Birmingham: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Bristol: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Cardiff: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Cork: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Dublin: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Exeter: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Glasgow: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Liverpool: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
London: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Manchester: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Newcastle: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Nottingham: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Oxford: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Plymouth: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Reading: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Sheffield: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Southampton: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Stoke: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Sunderland: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Tottenham: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Wolverhampton: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3
Wrexham: a 16.4 b 16.4 c 17.3 d 17.3

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Max 24C (75F); lowest day temp: Min 14C (57F); Highest night temp: Max 17C (63F); lowest night temp: Min 10C (50F).
Today: Highest day temp: Max 24C (75F); lowest day temp: Min 14C (57F); Highest night temp: Max 17C (63F); lowest night temp: Min 10C (50F).

MOON TODAY

MOON TODAY: The moon is in the constellation of Cancer. The moon is in the constellation of Cancer. The moon is in the constellation of Cancer.

High tides

	AM	PM	MT	HT
London Bridge	2.18	8.6	3.19	8.7
Aberdeen	8.31	12.1	8.46	12.4
Belfast	8.16	11.2	8.33	11.4
Birmingham	7.01	4.9	7.17	3.2
Bristol	12.05	6.1	7.25	3.4
Cardiff	8.31	4.7	8.47	5.0
Chelmsford	8.16	4.9	8.33	5.1
Exeter	12.38	3.8	1.18	4.8
Glasgow	11.45	8.0	11.54	5.3
Harwich	3.42	8.8	8.54	8.8
Leamington	7.12	8.2	7.31	8.5
Leeds	10.35	5.1	4.18	5.1
Liverpool	10.35	5.1	4.18	5.1
London	10.35	5.1	4.18	5.1
Manchester	7.26	6.3	7.15	4.6
Marlow	6.19	6.2	6.36	6.6
Medway	6.19	6.2	6.36	6.6
Newcastle	5.56	4.9	6.13	4.3
Nottingham	8.14	1.7	8.43	2.0
Portsmouth	12.10	8.3	12.54	8.7
Sheffield	12.10	8.3	12.54	8.7
Southampton	7.36	8.5	7.53	8.8
Stoke	4.42	5.1	4.14	5.0
Wolverhampton	12.40	5.1	1.14	5.0

This information is in metres (1m=3.28ft).

Around Britain

	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Sun	Rain	Max	Min
St Andrews	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Southend	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Birmingham	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Cardiff	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Exeter	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Glasgow	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Harwich	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Leamington	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Leeds	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Liverpool	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
London	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3
Manchester	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3	1.4	1.4	17.8	8.3